

July 5, 1930

A McGraw-Hill Publication

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# AVIATION

*The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine*



JIGS AND FIXTURES FOR *Welding*

A SURVEY OF *Flying Licenses*

*Radio Instruction* FOR SOLO STUDENTS

AVIATION  
July 5, 1930

A  
SYNONYM  
FOR  
SAFETY



AVIATION

THE OLDEST AMERICAN AERONAUTICAL MAGAZINE

A McGraw-Hill Publication ... ESTABLISHED 1911

EDWARD F. WARNER, Editor

*Index to*  
**VOLUME 29**  
*July 5 to*  
*December, 1930*



*Published Monthly by*  
McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, Inc.  
NEW YORK





# The twin-engined KINGBIRD climbs and flies with and carries



Interior of plane, symmetrical. Note the unobstructed vision, also the arrangement of controls, and combination of instrument board.



The engine in front and well exposed. Shows the design which does not obstruct vision and the combination of instrument board.

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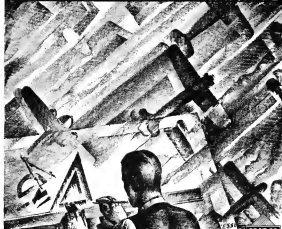


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# AVIATION

THE OLDEST AMERICAN AERONAUTICAL MAGAZINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION • ESTABLISHED 1911

EDWARD F. WARNER, Editor

VOLUME 1 • July 5, 1930 • NUMBER 1



## Off With the Old, On With the New

**T**HIS is the last issue of *Aviation*, that will appear in the present form. Next week will mark the introduction to the public of *THE AVIATION NEWS*. Three weeks hence the next copy of *Aviation*, changed and enlarged, will reach the hands of its subscribers. Thereafter it will be with you monthly.

This is in no sense, therefore, a leave-taking. We have our appreciation and desire again in a slightly changed content but in the same character.

We speak of expressing our appreciation. In the two weeks since the first announcement of this prospective change we have had much to appreciate. We take this opportunity of making collective acknowledgment to our friends, who have been almost unanimous in their approval of the change and almost unanimous in understanding, and accepting the validity of, the reasons that led us to make it.

It is futile to blink the fact that the aviation industry has many serious problems. We have never shied recognizing it, and we shall not begin to do so now. In solving these problems, two things are really needed.

First a courage. We have no time to sit about with our hands stuck in our hands. We need to go forth with our heads held high, looking the world in the eye with confidence that what we have to say is worth listening to. We need courage, but not mere encouragement. It wants to be the kind of courage that comes from within. Prudent backing, and assurance that everything is lovely, and that the modern airplane is the most marvelous vehicle ever designed, and that the aviation industry is doing everything that can be done to market its products, are worse than silly.

The second thing needed is information. As a matter

of fact, the first and the second merge. Children are afraid in the dark because they cannot see what is happening. An industry lacking fundamental information about its own operations and its own public is a timid and a down-hearted industry, and for precisely the same reason.

Information is needed in two senses, and both are within our grasp. First, there is current news. *THE AVIATION NEWS* will be devoted to that. Second, there is the general perspective of what is going on. The word "survey" has been used so much and become so hackneyed that we hesitate to employ it, but we are not going to hesitate at all in carrying on the kind of investigation to which that term is commonly applied. We carry in this issue a study of the experience and past activities of a group chosen at random, from among licensed pilots and holders of aviation permits. We are working now upon an examination of glider developments here and abroad and upon flying club activities.

Occasionally we hear of statistical and market researches undertaken by individual companies. When the outlook is confined to a single type of aircraft or accessory, it is of course natural that the work be undertaken by the company most interested. When the field is broader than that, we work ourselves down either as having completely met our own ideal of our own task or as having failed to bring our own activities sufficiently to the attention of the industry. We have an aim to keep our readers fully informed of what is going on. We have tried, and in the future, working under more favorable conditions than in the past, we are going to continue to try, to do that well enough so that manufacturers and distributors will not have to repeat our investigations for themselves.

## Standardized Performance Tests

THE QUESTION of performance measurement will not down. Some of the large manufacturing groups are taking it very seriously now, but it cannot be disposed of by any such measure as the establishment of a performance-testing section within a company's own organization. Before our statements of speed and climb will attract full credence from the cynical they must be verified from accepted sources, sources of which the newspapers and the majority are able to get precise.

The rule is one for the Department of Commerce. It has its authority with their other agencies. Performance, especially in respect of climb and take-off, is an essential factor determining safety, and should be attested by the body that issues licenses with safety in view.

However, the Department is at present unable or unwilling to undertake the role. We hope the conditions will change and that Secretary Young will keep the matter continuously in mind, but for the moment we must cut about for other expedients.

One, obviously attractive, is again for the third or fourth time being pressed upon Congress by high officials of the Air Corps. At Wright Field there is a plant without a peer. There is a staff for which performance testing is the daily task and which has had every opportunity of gaining intimate acquaintance with all the flaws that can introduce themselves into such measurements. They have every qualification to test commercial planes. All that they want is the authority of Congress to do the work and charge a reasonable fee for it, followed by a display of the industry's willingness to take imperial terms and to pay what it costs to make them.

Wright Field cannot serve the entire country, and without some interest on the part of Congress it can do almost nothing. Thus we are thrown back on the private individual, or private or commercial concerns.

There are individuals in the United States whose name signed to any performance test would be, to anyone who knows the industry and its personnel, unquestionable guarantee of the fairness and accuracy of the results. Given a reasonable evidence of the industry's desire to have performance data and to pay for them, services will be established to take a place, and build up a reputation, comparable to those held in their several fields by a number of well-known mechanical and testing laboratories. One or two attempts to inaugurate such services have already been made. Unhappily, they have failed for lack of support.

But now there is a new scheme. Under the aegis of the Aeronautical Club of Commerce, performances are to be certified by universities. We await the issue with interest. It may work, or it may not. The inherent probabilities of the case are all against it.

The issue of "accuracy" has an impressive sound, but those who have seen academic life from the inside know that universities are like other institutions. There

are good ones and bad. There are faculties of every sort of specialized attainment. There are professors of aeronautical engineering in the United States whose qualifications to do performance testing are beyond question. There are others who, if only because of lack of experience or because their special interests have him in other fields, are quite incompetent. There are faculty members whose word on any matter on which they are willing to express an opinion deserves to be taken as final evidence. There are others who, judged as individuals, would find the standards of their views and the accuracy of their determinations of physical fact at least suspect.

Under this new plan, except for a somewhat inadequate system of controlling the universities participating, there will be an aggregation of the shrew from the goats. Performance testing will not stand on the authority of an individual of known qualifications, nor upon that of a particular institution of established reputation, but upon the fact of approval by some university—any university that has been sanctioned by a name at least remote association, the members of which have plenty of business of their own to occupy their time. We shall continue to exercise our own freedom of judgment upon the validity of the various results so obtained.



## Stop Watch and Slide Rule

A FEW MONTHS AGO a new speed record was made. It was reported to the newspapers, and accepted by them at 185.453823 to p.h. Fantastic as this string of digits is, it is typical of many that have found their way into the press, and even into the record books. There is no known reason of timing or measuring a record that would give even one one-hundredth part of the accuracy implied in such figures. The methods commonly used show a probable error something like a hundred times as large again. How long must astronomical night, supposedly controlled from a scientific point of view, be made thus ridiculous in the eyes of every intelligent citizen?

The record quoted was struck out to a millionth of a mile an hour. To attain that accuracy the thirty-one mile course around which record trials are made would have to be laid off with an error in length with less than one-sixty-fourth of an inch. The time of a one-hundredth-kilometer flight, twice around such a course, would need to be measured accurately within one-fifty-thousandth of a second. As already suggested, to reduce the error to one hundred times that magnitude would require laboratory precision of the highest order. An error of five feet in laying off a thirty-mile course, or

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of a twentieth of a second is timing (and there is plenty of evidence that few timers, even with the best of mechanically-operated apparatus are reliable within that range) would change the last four figures in the record that had been so astutely certified.

The failure to take adequate account of the inevitable human error in measurement, and to limit statements of records to a reasonable number of significant figures is not the only absurdity in the present method of certification, but it is the most ridiculous. The technical regulations of the F.A.I. have grown up through easy years, and some of them have been based more on convenience or on spurious and unscientific attractiveness than on logic. Is the application of good sense to our record making, in fact, we as aeronauts, who live surrounded by registers of it, we as engineers, who have something to learn from the books governing track athletics. We should like to see an American committee, a committee of real experts, undertake a general and basic reorganization of the technical rules in the new framework by new thought of precedent. We should like to have something worth laying on the table of the F.A.I. under rational recommendation. Hardwork improvement of such rules will never catch up with scientific development.



## To President Rubio Speaks Out

TO THE SOUTH of the United States there lies a country when they intend to keep aviation out of gold lace and to dwell. With a compass of pilotage which might well be accepted as the Mexican Republic, the distinguished president of the Mexican Republic, while approaching the spectacular achievement of Col. Roberto Franco, has made it plain that for the present at least it must be the best of his land.

His words, already contained in one of some more picturesque phrases recently employed by Mr. E. P. Hallowell, are too sensible to pass unnoticed. Mexico, and the President, needed its own aviation and their services. Long-distance flights endangered the lives of the pilots without sufficient return, brought no direct benefit to the country, and would be prohibited.

There can be no universal rule in such matters. In the face of our unfavorable opinion of ocean flights is typically undesirable we are glad to express our delight and relief at the success of Captain Kingsford-Smith's attempt to cross the Atlantic, and to pay deserved tribute to certain features of the technical organization of his flight. The quality of the navigation and the exceptional consistency of the radio communication, evoked special admiration. So does the generous and modest demeanor of the commanding officer, already renowned for one of the greatest aerial ventures in history, and

his associates. None the less, although the spectacular and daring achievement stirs the blood, in principle we second in the other judgment of President Rubio. Aviation has passed the point where it needs the spectacle. Nothing has happened in the last year to shake our confidence, expressed at the time of the Cleveland race, that steering hawks the airplane. We look with great suspicion on exhibitions of any kind. They have outlived their time. The airplane has settled down to work. As a working vehicle the traveling public is accepting it. Let its wonderful days be slipped into oblivion.



## Take a Plane Abroad

GO DOWN by the docks in the Hudson River on almost any day of the next month, and you will see automobiles being loaded, Europe-bound. The transit season is in swing again. In the past few years, thanks to publicity by the steamship companies, it has become the touring season in fact, with a large proportion of the travelers furnishing their individual transportation. Those who have done Europe by highway car are likely to return and do it again, but why so much redundancy? Why not at least make the second try, if not the first one, by air?

Thanks to the efforts of European aero clubs, it is as easy to travel intentionally by air as by highway. It may be even a little easier, for the airplane land only in large eastern airports where everyone is familiar with the procedure, whereas those who may cross international boundaries on little frequented highways. The cost of preparing for a European tour is reasonable, and the trouble involved is slight. If we could find some way of making ourselves a party to the International Air Navigation Convention, it would be simpler still. The Royal Aero Club made arrangements during the last year for 252 British private pilots to fly on the Continent. At least one workshop company has made special arrangements for handling private airplanes with a minimum of formality and of preliminary packing, very much as they handle automobiles. Yet the total number of American travelers who have flown their own planes abroad has been but half a dozen, and all but one or two of them have been on aeronautical business bent.

The British aircraft industry labors under many handicaps, but in at least one respect it has led the world. It has made genuine aerial touring, private ownership of the purest sort, a compelling force. Of the three hundred thousand Americans who will be crossing the Atlantic this year there ought to be at least fifty to make their own plans with them and fly themselves from place to place. Fifty now would be the minimum of five hundred three years hence. This is a call for pioneers.



Reliable engine mounting jig used by the Consolidated Aircraft Corp.

A GREAT DEAL of attention has naturally been centered on the preparation of material for welding, training of welders, torch manipulation and all that goes into the actual weld, while comparatively little has been said about the work of the real power behind the throne of welding—namely, the welding jig.

Curious consideration of welding jigs actually reveals their obvious advantages as an adjunct to quality production. Not only do they speed up the actual operation of welding, but they also permit the cutting of component pieces to exact length in quantity, doing away with the necessity of cutting each piece to fit on the individual job. This naturally leads to an interchangeability of fabricated items which is so clearly desirable that its advantages may be taken for granted. Of even greater advantage is the accuracy of alignment obtainable, which is so essential in engine construction, and the control of shrinkage and warpage.

The simplest welding jig which will answer the purpose is the box. Great stiffness, adjustability and ease of operation are highly desirable features. Boiler plate and relatively heavy structural shapes, often chrome molybdenum, are most desirable for jig materials, although wood is occasionally used for experimental models. Adjustability is usually achieved by some variable device in the clamping tool which the parts to be welded fit in place. Many jigs are adjustable for position with respect to the welder (rotating type), allowing the operator to work in a comfortable position, thereby greatly increasing the probability of good welding, not to mention the increase in speed of welding, since the entire assembly can be welded without removing it from the jig.

Welding jigs can best be designed by actual practice. The jig for each individual structure is a problem in itself. Avoidance of initial stresses introduced in the structure by shrinkage is very important in design. Allowance for shrinkage varies with the type and amount of welding of the particular joint. It is impossible to set down a concrete rule, however, a close approximation for shrinkage of small structures (brasserie type) is  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. for each inch. This is, of course, for the welding of the joint itself after all detail fittings are welded in place.

In using a welding jig, the proper preparation of welding is extremely important, in order to balance the

## Welding Jigs AND FIXTURES

By J. F. HARDENBER

### A Discussion of the Current Representative Factories in of This Type of Production

shrinkage stresses and prevent warping. It must also be kept in mind that steel in cooling passes through temperature ranges in which it is comparatively weak and brittle. Therefore, if one end of a piece is welded, and before this end cools the other end is welded, the contraction will take place in the original weld away from cracks in the second weld before it has cooled down to its full strength as ordinary temperature.

In considering the detail design of various welding jigs for specific airplane units as evolved by different airplane manufacturers, an immediate difficulty presents itself in the matter of classification best suited for comparative purposes. It is believed that can best be overcome by first presenting a general classification based on the practice of several representative airplane manufacturers, followed by detailed consideration under the general classification of the plane itself, such as fuselages, tail surfaces, wing spars, etc.

THE WELDING JIGS used by the Fokker Aircraft Corp. may be divided into four groups in accordance with the type of structure for which they are designed.

1. Fixtures for structural tubular frames assembled with a close tolerance of any gap or misalignment in allowance is overall dimensions. For structures built in one plane such as fuselage sides and plane bulkheads, a combination of rivets composed of common structural steel angles joined by welding and braced by semi-circular steel plate ribbed as shown in Fig. 1, is used. The tubes of the structure which is being welded rest on the angles which are cut away at the point of welding. This gives a better welding position than if the tubes were resting on "V" blocks. For structures which are built up in two or three planes, such as engine nacelles,



Left: Landing gear jig is used at the factory of the Travel Air Co.  
Right: Jig of the Bush Aircraft Co.  
A structure jig used in the construction of the Hercules E 4A



### Practices of the Design Equipment

a modified construction is used, the fixture being steel built of angle iron as shown in Fig. 2.

2. Fixtures for welding cases fitted to tubular construction such as welding wing struts, landing-gear attachments, engine mounts, etc., to the fuselage or large-pin lugs to tail surface frames. Tolerance for these attachment fittings, center is center, is plus or minus  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. and sometimes less for the small parts. For this purpose, the fitting brackets are held on the jig so as to enable the assembling of the fixture to be done to the close tolerance required.

3. Welding auxiliary fittings to the main structures with pins or rivets  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. diam. Under this class fall lugs for window frames, landing-gear lugs, etc. The jigs for this purpose are the archaic type of locating fixtures made of structural steel or tubing.

4. Fixtures or jigs for the assembly of small welded parts. The assembly fixture is made of cold-rolled steel,

care being taken in its design for high-quality production and low cost.

Dependence for keeping the work within proper dimensions is not put on the welding jig alone. The parts are made to dimensions, so that they will fit properly and avoid big gaps which require heavy welds and introduce unacceptable shrinkage. All tubes for structural and non-structural parts are finished on the welding machine.

In the manufacture of welding jigs the Bush Aircraft Co. follows two general methods differing considerably in both procedure and results obtained.

The first problem to confront this organization lay in the universal use of jigs that could be built at not too great a cost and still give good results. The basis of the solution was extreme accuracy in flat layout and bending blocks. This was accomplished by two master patterns—one which contained all the holes for accurate drilling and the others which contained jigs for holding while bending. Now, these holes, which are accurately drilled, are used for locating on the bending blocks, the result being that in the end all the component parts of a fitting are accurate and complete in every respect, in many cases all that is required for a welding jig is a simple device for holding the component parts in place while welding. In many cases jigs are the only jigs used.

The second type of jig is of a more conventional nature, with the component parts undrilled except for one master hole and held in place on an elaborate welding jig.

After welding, another equally elaborate drilling jig is used for drilling all holes. This method, although



Engine Landing Connector under welding jig

very costly, given the heat results where appreciable shrinkage occurs.

On small welded fittings, as used in the production of General Motors Aircraft Corp., requiring accurate dimensions between holes, all bearing is done by means of undrilled pin holes, which are drilled and reamed full size on the jig after the assembly has been completely welded and the strains removed by normalizing. These fixtures are so designed as to allow ready access to all welding operations. They are also designed so as to eliminate all heavy sections of the fixture at or near the weld, thus maintaining the diffusion of heat.

Quick clamping methods are used, bearing in mind the necessity of the details into the fixture and the removal of the welded assembly. Springs or clamps are added used due to their being affected by heat.

Welding jigs and fixtures are used at the Corbin plants to insure the production of uniform and accurate parts and assemblies by labor of average skill and in the shortest possible time. The use and design of jigs and fixtures is largely influenced by the type and number of airplanes being built. For example, the jig for a welded fuselage skeleton for an experimental model on a lot of three or four planes, is usually a wooden scaffolding. This scaffolding is bolted together and is made of heavy stock to insure the necessary and desired rigidity. Pullaw blocks, holding clamps, etc., are kept to a minimum and are located easily at those points where major straining parts join the fuselage. The design of the jig is such that the assembly of a maximum number of its members will permit removal of the finished product.

Fuselage jigs for a greater number of planes, say ten to twenty-five, are usually built-up structural steel or rigid construction, although the use of the built-up structural-steel type bolted together is of common occurrence. To permit the greatest clearance of men to work on a fuselage at one time, the jig is often made in sections, and when required, the "section" jigs are designed to swivel about a horizontal axis. The finished products of these jigs are then joined in an assembly jig to complete the unit.

Jigs for fittings vary in type considerably, depending on the quantity of fittings to be produced. When a jig or fixture is necessary but the quantity of fittings to be produced is small, the jig is a temporary affair and may be a welded- or bolt-up type. For quantity production the jig is often a casting, substantial enough to resist

distortion caused by welding the fitting, and frequently designed to be used as a machining fixture after the welding operations are complete.

THE TIME SAVING by the use of fixtures in the Tronair Air factory is very great. The first fuselage complete fuselages were built without the aid of fixtures and required about 270 hr as compared with 79 hr in the present fixtures.

The underlying principles controlling the building of welding fixtures by this company are as follows:

1. Accuracy is of first importance, since it assures uniform fitting conditions.
2. Simplicity in design cuts costs of building, cost of material, and speeds up production.
3. Permits rapid removal of finished part. If the fixture requires the use of pins and/or pins carrying a large number of bolts, too much time is lost.
4. Joints to be welded should not make close contact with heavy parts of the fixture, resulting in the loss of heat and faulty welds.
5. The jigs must be constructed so that there is no restraint on the normal expansion and contraction of the joint during the welding operation.
6. A sequence of welding must be found by trial that will cause the least amount of distortion.
7. Welded joints should be complete in the fixture. The relation between part and fixture is apparent in case of distortion and measures can be taken to correct the same.
8. Measuring by the welder should not be necessary if the fixture has been scientifically designed and checked after construction.
9. Convenience for the welder.
10. Each fixture should be for one purpose whenever possible.

#### Fuselage Jigs

BEFORE DESCRIBING specific fuselage jigs in detail, it may be well to review briefly the general process of fuselage welding in its broadest terms. The struts and longerons are first cut to correct length and the ends machined for proper fit to the contour of the fuselage to which they are to be joined. In the case of struts, a clearance of about  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. is allowed at each end for expansion. Root tabs should normally be formed 10 inches should ever be forced into place, as with the consequent expansion of welding, a bow will be formed. The various members are placed in the welding jig and held rigidly but not firmly by the clamps. Order of welding is usually progressive; from one end to the other along one side of the top track. After the weld at one end of the top has cooled off, the other top side is likewise welded. This is necessary to eliminate internal shrinkage. Similar order should be followed in the bottom track. Two soldiers, working simultaneously and opposite to each other at all times, so that equal temperatures are maintained, one also accomplishes the same result.

#### AVIATION

July 5, 1939

#### AVIATION

July 5, 1939

THE PRACTICE followed at the Keystone plant is to make a layout of the top and bottom truss in a steel table (basin plate or channel plate). Small angles are bolted to this table to receive the truss in correct location, and also the backbone which serves the detail fittings which are to be welded to either of the structures. It is important that the detail fittings be welded first if the finished structure is to be accurate. This is to permit shrinkage of the cross members or longerons before they are tied together. All welding is completed with the exception of the telescopic joints which are bolted together by small rack welds. The top and bottom trusses are then placed in the assembly jig where the vertical members are fixed.

This assembly jig consists of channels bolted to a concrete base with steel blocks which receive the wing lugs, strut fittings, engine mount, tail post and a few struts between the tail post and rear wing lugs fittings. This channel-iron structure is well braced in all directions. All joints of the fuselage are then welded, leaving the telescopic joints of the longerons as a last operation. The final alignment is checked by looking the back webs of the telescopic joints and completely welding one after another with the fuselage bolted in the jig.

#### THE FUSelage of the Great Lakes ZV-1 Training

There is built at A. L. 4330, a fuselage for the ZV-1 throughout. The fuselage is built into one solid assembly including the engine bases, which accommodates building the location of engine mounting bolts, wing lugs, engine control levers, rubber post bearing, etc., to very close accuracy, as there is no chance to shift or alter these locations to correct misalignment. A set of twelve fixtures (not including duplications for production) is required for one complete welded assembly. These fixtures are divided as follows:

One for left-hand side; one for right-hand side; one for station No. 2; one for station No. 3; one for station No. 4; one for longerons large and lower longerons No. 3 and No. 4; one for struts between sub-assembly and bottom bearing; one for top bearing between struts No. 3 and No. 4; one for main assembly of all above sub-assemblies and one for bearing hinge joints and rubber post bracket.

All large fixtures too heavy to handle are placed on trussing scaffolding which is spaced from the position, making the work to suit general size and lift. Due to the linear expansion of the longerons during the welding operations on the main fuselage fixtures, hinge joints are not welded until the fuselage is removed from the main fixture.

IN THE FINISHED PLANT the fuselages are built up in sections, the order part in two sections, and a third section for the after end of the fuselage. Since the latter may be more easily produced, the tail section is previously assembled to the other before the latter is removed from the jig. Jigs are built of structural steel.

ON THE FUSelage JIG used by Corbin for quantity production, provision is made for accurately locating the various struts, wing lugs, etc., so that a maximum amount of time will be used for fitting in the final assembly. Another feature of this company's practice is the use of removable struts in those jigs and fixtures where the welded up part is subject to expansion or contraction. For example, in welding cross members to longerons, struts of proper location (determined by angles and squares) are inserted between the adjacent sides of the longeron tubes and the jig and after tightly clamping, the longerons and cross members are tack welded. The struts are then removed, the clamps made tight, but not tight and the parts welded. When the welding is complete, the assembly will have stood up properly in the jig but not so tightly that its removal is difficult. The use of these struts has largely done away with the cracks in or near welds.

THE BOEING AIRPLANE COMPANY is a pioneer in the use of electric arc welding in aircraft construction, and at present is one of the comparatively few airplane factories in the nation using this type of welding. For many years Boeing engineers have experimented with electric arc welding with the result that at this time it has been developed to a high degree of efficiency. While torch welding is used to a certain extent at the Boeing plant, arc welding is employed generally in steel assemblies where strength is an essential factor, such as, for example, steel fuselage sections. In the construction of experimental airplanes, wooden jigs are used.

When this company starts production on a type of airplane that requires a welded steel fuselage, however, the assembly must be made in a permanent steel jig. The jig for the fuselage is built in steel and is made of steel, assembled by bolting on a solid permanent steel base. Clamps, in which are locked the component parts of the fuselage, are intricate units assembled by welding. The alignment and accuracy of these clamps, use of course, features of cardinal importance. Small sub-assemblies are built up on benches before being locked in the main assembly jig for complete assembly.

THE DOWDY AIR fuselage building fixture is built on a sturdy foundation, the two lower members are 4-in. x 12-in. x 24-ft. 1-section of structural steel. The principal supports and the lower longerons are made of 4-in. x 4-in. angle iron. All tubes rest in half-round welding blocks and are held in place by clamps working on the accurate principle of being loose inside the other in bolting the tube in place. All welded joints are completed in the fixture and the only welding remaining to be done after removing the fuselage from the fixture is the addition of small fittings.

IN ADDRESSING the problem of proper fitting for the "Corbin" fuselage, the Chance Vought Corp. recognized three fundamental systems of fitting used in the aircraft industry: (1) integral or single jig assembly; (2) half jig and sub-jig assembly; and (3) sub-assembly involving jigs. The integral or single jig assembly (where the structure can be removed after tacking and finished out of the jig) was regarded as the cheapest way to fabricate experimental or small order fuselages. The half jig and sub-jig method was believed particularly adaptable for very large transport fuselages, where the sides are symmetrical and can be welded in a vertical position without revolving the jig, and where after removing a structure of this type, it can be used as a jig in itself to assemble horizontal cross ribs.

The half jig method, while in use in respect to symmetry of considerable study, in order that the welder may be enabled to finish the joint in one heat, thereby eliminating the chances of cracking joints, which is particularly noticeable in chrome molybdenum steel structures. Much

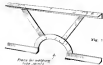


Fuselage Jigs and Fixtures employed by the Chance Vought Corp.

time may be saved by having the work at the proper height, so that the welder may remain in an upright position, rather than to work overhead.

It has been found that under no condition should the expansion of a tube be restricted. It is far better practice to mill the tube ends to exact dimensions and merely use the jig to hold them in place at the proper distance, leaving the stress on the welding of the tube may expand freely at welding and contract to its own dimensions after cooling.

Alignment is simplified due to all the tubes being symmetrical at the sub-assembly welding operation, when heat is applied to the larger fittings, so that all contracting has occurred before this sub-assembly is placed in the main structural jigs. No access exists for jigs for maintaining at huge points or principal fittings.



Since pilot holes are placed in the fittings before welding, this means a minimum of jig reworking after welding.

Accuracy of the fittings determines to a large degree the end use and speed of all other operations. Consequently, a tolerance of only  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. is allowed throughout the design of the Standard fuselage jig. For example, in building an exhaust flange, it is possible to jig and cut straight, thus greatly reducing the time required in cutting and fitting in the sheet-metal department.

#### Engine Mount Jigs

FOOT PRACTICE has two distinct jigs for center engine mounts, an assembly jig and a welding jig. The center engine mount assembly jig is composed of a flat square plate 4 in. thick and sufficiently wide to permit the location of the engine mounting ring within its area. This plate is solidly bolted to a welded frame of angle iron so that it cannot change in position. On this plate the location of the engine mount ring is definitely fixed by the permanent construction of the fitting brackets. At each of the four corners directly opposite to the plate are permanently located fittings similar to those mounted on the fuselage of the plane. The relation of these fittings to the location of the ring is constant.

The engine mount ring is bolted and loosely clamped on the face of the assembly jig. It is then heated and defluidly located in its place. The fitting extending from the fuselage fittings to the ring is then installed and tack welded. When the engine mount is held together by this temporary welding it is taken out of the assembly jig and fastened to the welding jig.

The center mount welding jig is a stand made of steel. On this stand is mounted a plate  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick and of such rectangular dimensions that it permits a center engine's top to be bolted to the jig fittings, which support the center engine's main structure. The plate is welded to a spindle which is free to rotate within a steel bore in the stand. A locking device enables the welder

to place the plate about the axis of the shaft in any desired position. It has been found, however, that due to the distortion caused by the heat of the welding (which an adjustment must be made to the jig so that this ring of the engine mount, as well as its legs, will be solidly held by fittings to the jig. This is assumed to nullify the influence of the heat. It has been estimated that the stress in this case the welding of the center mount will be in excess of 20 per cent of the total.

The ring of the engine mount being constructed is clamped on the plate after it has been forced to assume a perfect, circular shape. The main joint of the engine mount is then secured, fast to the fittings on the jig. The engine mount fittings are now moved into the jig fittings, and the fitting is installed in order. As the operation progresses the taking is taken back. The jig has also location points for the off back brackets. When the mount has been tacked throughout it is taken out of the assembly jig and fastened to the welding jig.

The finished engine mount welding jig has made possible a saving of about 50 per cent in the time formerly necessary to weld the exhaust engine mount. This jig consists of a plate  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick and circular in shape with a diameter of 42 in. It is mounted on a stand in the same manner as previously described for the center mount welding jig. However, the jig is of such dimensions that it is necessary to hold it to the floor. Using the plate as its base a frame work of angle iron is welded in. On this frame work are placed four  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. blocks which serve to locate the ring. At the same time the mount fittings are bolted to the engine mount jig fittings which correspond to those to which the mount is suspended on the center section. Once this is accom-

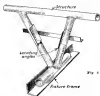


Fig. 1

plished the welder welds all of the mount that he can while he is in one position. When he has finished he turns the plate about the axis of the shaft on which it is welded, to whatever place he may wish to set it.

THE ENGINE MOUNT of the Martin PM-4 flying boat is composed of sub-assemblies in order to increase the speed of production and also to take up the shrinkage in these assemblies so that the shrinkage will not all come in the final assembly frame. The engine ring and the diagonal brace arms leading to the tube that form a square with two bends on two sides are part of one sub-assembly.  $\frac{1}{16}$ -in. bends at the rear constitute another sub-assembly of which there are complete assembly fixtures.

The large steps that are made up in steel tubes are a sub-assembly in themselves. Afterwards,

they are all placed in this complete assembly fixture and welded together in such a way that the last weld is made at the end of the "A" brace leaving only one shrinkage to be taken care of in the final welding.

IN ADDITION the Standard engine mount jig, the most difficult and the first thing to determine is the shrinkage to allow for the engine fittings. The shrinkage must be held in  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. In building a mount where the fitting clamps are used on the engine mount ring, the shrinkage can be held and calculated fairly easy. In a ring of 25½ in. diameter,  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. is allowed and it is found that the mount can be put on the engine very easily. Where welded clamps are used, the procedure is to make two pieces (bolts), by the hole centers and, add  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. to the diameter of the ring. The ring is then put between the two plates, the two bolts together and the clamps welded in place. The clamp welding is completed and the ring transferred to the engine mount jig.

In making a jig of the type shown,  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. is allowed for overall shrinkage. The base blocks are mounted on a cast plate, the upper plate set up and the supports (with clamps for holding upright blocks) attached and the jig is ready for use.

The base blocks are built with a spring attachment so that it will take the strain of the jig and at the same time tend to hold down the shrinkage. The clamp (Fig. 3) shows the type block used with the jig in place.

On the latest jig, the cast base is being replaced with  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. boiler plate, supporting the upper ring plate with 8-in. screw castings. In this way, the cost of the jig can be cut down 40 per cent as it is much easier to locate the base support clamps.

#### Top Step Jigs

THE WING AREA jig used by Keystone, is quite simple. It is a complex layout of the structure on a steel table (hotter plate or channel iron). Small angles are bolted to this table to receive the tubes in their proper location as well as steel blocks to receive the wing bracing and strut fittings. In a ring of tubular construction, it is customary that the diagonal tubes be tack welded to the top and bottom members in a first operation, next the spar and wing hinge fittings are completely welded, followed by the final welding of the diagonal tubes, generally starting at the center of the spar and working out. To prevent warpage, the best procedure is to weld completely the diagonal members one at a time, leaving the joints where the top and bottom tubes telescope free to move, welding these as a last operation. This is no great shrinkage and yet hold the spar in its correct length. The finished spar is usually accurate within  $\frac{1}{16}$  in.

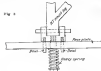
#### Tail Surfaces and Struts

FAIRBANKS STABILIZERs are first constructed in jigs used in tack welding the various tubes together, preliminary to placing the assembled set in another jig, which is constructed so as to permit warping during the welding process. This final welding starts at the middle of the stabilizer and proceeds alternately out to the ends. Quick clamp clamps, with a bolted-out test, are used to hold the members in proper alignment.

WELDING jigs used by Keystone for tail surfaces, such as elevators or stabilizers, follow about simple lines. The spar jig, if the structure is a truss in design,

follows the one described under wing spar jigs. If it is a single tube it is only necessary to have fittings to receive the hinges and angles to hold the tubes. The jig for the complete structure is also a layout on a steel table.

Pieces of angle iron of the desired size are bolted to the table in a vertical position and proper location to receive the ribs and spars with steel plates, bolts and washers, to hold the assembly before welding. The



welding procedure of an assembly such as this is not very different, with the exception of the alignment of the large joints, which is carried worked out after the first two or three are completed.

IN STANDARD tail surface jigs, the practice at the Standard factory is to use standard cast-iron table supports, cutting the blocks to the correct height and putting two  $\frac{1}{16}$ -in. plate in the top to set as guide. These blocks are all located on the plate, the curved portion of the jig built and tried out before the large blocks are put on. When firmly located, the blocks are all removed and dovetailed to the cast-iron surface plate. Because of the expense of the surface plate, all blocks are made removable so that the plate may be used for other model tail surfaces.

The jig used by Ford for exhaust manifolds consists of a steel table sufficiently large to determine to accurately locate the Standard exhaust manifold used on Ford planes. On this table are welded a down bracket having a semi-circular shape; on each of these brackets a semi-circular clamp is hinged, thus forming a full circle when the clamps are closed. The manifolds are composed of sections of sheet metal welded together. These sections come from the sheet-metal department pressed in semi-circular form. When the edges are finished, one half is placed on the bracket and the other half on top of it and secured by the clamp. These two pieces are then welded together. At a predetermined distance the exhaust flanges are located on stationary hinges and bolted thereto. They are then welded to the specified throat-die piping connecting to the collector ring. Good welding jig design is a combination of experience, good judgment and common sense. To name either it is dependent upon experience, and to a far greater extent upon the ability to profit by one's own mistakes. The welding foreman is usually a far better designer of welding jigs than a general draftsman.

It should be borne in mind that the effects of poor welding jigs extend far beyond the shop. Failures which occur in the field due to small cracks due to welded joints can often be traced back to welding jigs which did not allow sufficient freedom of movement for contraction and expansion during welding, or to incorrect order of welding of the several joints.



## STUDENT INSTRUCTION BY

By DUNCAN SINCLAIR  
Alfred Graham & Co., Ltd.  
Slough, England

### *A Description of Equipment Developed in England Which Talks to the Student Flying Solo*

**B**BRITISH Air Navigation Regulations demand that an aircraft flying for hire or reward is regarded as carrying two passengers from a radio point of view: (a) Those capable of carrying more than five but less than ten persons including the crew; (b) Those capable of carrying two or more persons including the crew. Categories (a) and (b) form the "compulsorily fitted" class, required to carry radio, and those machines which carry less than five persons form the "voluntarily fitted" class.

The commercial scope for radio in the field of the "voluntarily fitted" machine is somewhat small in Great Britain, but it is a field which rapidly has showed signs of developing quite rapidly, and since it embraces the private owner and the amateur pilot, it should be treated as a matter of no inconsiderable importance. If we are to envisage an aircraft industry developing on lines similar to those of the motor-car industry, this much cannot be taken away so far as radio equipment is concerned.

The most interesting instruction possibility is in connection with school work. The system hitherto adopted almost universally has been to make use of the North or Avion class of light airplane, the instructor occupying the front seat and the pupil sitting in the rear seat usually occupied by the pilot. For purposes of giving instructions and advice, communication has been carried on by means of a voice pipe system, which, though quite simple, is very efficient. Two tubes are used, one running from the instructor's mouthpiece to the pupil's earpiece, and the other from the pupil's microphone to the instructor's ear-piece. At a convenient point, joining the course of their two tubes, a small lip-pass unit is fitted to the side of the fuselage, and the two tubes pass side by side through this unit and have small tubular housings encasing them. The effect of this arrangement is that either of the two persons concerned can hear what he himself is saying without detrimentally affecting the hearing of the other.

This system of voice pipes is extremely easy to install, and needs no maintenance whatever. In flying radio to a light airplane, therefore, it seems natural to combine

this already useful system with the radio equipment, and the results of experiments recently conducted to this end, are highly satisfactory.

THE accepted practice in training a pupil to fly involves some five to fifteen hours of dual instruction in the air before the pupil can be considered safe enough to be allowed to fly solo. Throughout this preliminary period, he becomes accustomed to receiving his flying instructions through the voice pipe, and there is quite a novel psychological reason why he should continue to do



A view of the cockpit showing a part of the voice pipe system.

## Radio

### *Permits the Instructor to*



Upper: Type G 2-5 receiver manufactured by Alfred Graham & Co., Ltd., England. Below: A lip pass at front G.A.B. receiver with voice pipework.

so when radio is fitted and the instructor leaves the machine. For this purpose, a light place receiver has just been introduced by Alfred Graham & Co., Ltd., Slough, England. This receiver itself weighs just under 4½ lb. and its dimensions are 3½ x 4½ x 8½ in. One single tuning control is employed, operated by the knob and dial at the left end of the unit. The tuning range is from 400 to 1,000 metres, and two screened high-frequency stages precede a detector and one specially designed transformer output stage. A number of new patents are involved in the design.

A screened battery box contains small high and low tension batteries of improved type and the battery feed is supplied to the receiver through a single screened cable-system. The whole installation can be completely mounted in a period not exceeding five minutes. The machine itself is used as the "ground" of the receiving system, and the aerial employed is fitted between wing tips and tail and is so designed as not to interfere with the folding of the wings.

The output leads of the receiver are connected to a very light lead speaker which leads into the lip-pass unit of the voice tube installation, and a single switch is provided for turning the receiver on and off. There are no additional fittings required.

WHEN the pupil has arrived at that stage of his training where he may be considered able to make his first solo flight, the instructor steps out of the machine and switches on the radio set. He then goes to the wireless transmitter situated at any convenient point on the ground level within the airport, and the pupil takes off by himself. Should the instructor have chosen to criticize the flying of his pupil he can immediately switch on the ground station transmitter and speak to the machine to be written, and it will be observed that the pupil hears the same orders in exactly the same voice and manner as if the instructor were still in the machine with him.

During a recent flight made to Manchester and back on a Moth, signals from the Crayke station were received with this equipment, using fixed aerials of the

type described, right up to Manchester at great strength. At the Heston Airport where the Graham Company is carrying out some of its research work, it is possible to hear machines on the air routes well over the French coast, while signals from Crayke are audible clearly, from a point at distance over 50 yds. from the machine.

As to the meteorological aspect of the question, a machine fitted with an apparatus of this nature need never be without current weather news. The photograph of the Heston Airport installation shows the apparatus on the ground for purposes of school instruction. This apparatus, point to point with other fields, has a telephony range of 150-200 miles, depending upon circumstances.

A light-weight transmitter to work in conjunction with the G.A.B. receiver will also be marketed very shortly, and the total "kit-up" weight of the equipment including the generator for high and low tension supplies to both the transmitter and receiver will be less than 35 lb., with a maximum range of 50 miles transmitting from machine to ground.



## THE KEYSTONE-LOENING

### "Commuter"

*A Medium Weight Amphibian  
for Sport and Private Use*

By LESLIE E. NEVILLE  
Technical Editor of AVIATION

**I**N RESPONSE to the current demand for medium weight amphibian planes for sport and private use, the Keystone-Loening Company of the Keystone-Wright Corp. has developed and produced the Model K-84 "Commuter". The first of these planes was completed in April, 1935, and, following several months of test flying, was placed in production. First experimental models were built at the Loening plant in New York and actual production has been in progress for some months at the Keystone plant in Brimley, Pa.

Since the first experimental "Commuter" was built a number of modifications, mostly of a minor nature, have been incorporated in the design and it is our purpose here to describe in some detail the current production model of the plane. A large number of these airplanes is now in service at various parts of the country. The Model K-84 "Commuter" is manufactured under approval type certificate No. 219. Mr. J. A. Neesh is the project engineer.

Having some of the features of the Keystone-Loening amphibian "Air Yacht," the K-84 "Commuter" is a four-place, single engine biplane structure of the central hull type. The wing and tail surface structures follow conventional practice, while the hull is somewhat unique in construction. The entire machine is designed with unusual lightweight for the manufacturing department and it is probable that there are few current commercial air-

plane designs that lend themselves as well to large quantity production.

The "Commuter" has a wing span of 40 ft.; an overall length of 32 ft. 4 in. and an overall height of 14 ft. The weight empty is 2827 lb. and the useful load 1223 lb. giving a gross weight of 4,150 lb. The Wright J-6 800 hp engine is used.

**CONSTRUCTION** as the wing construction is conventional, it will not be described in great detail here. Spars are used throughout the structure, the spars being solid 1x6 for the front and 1x4 for the rear. Ribs are spaced approximately 13 in. apart and are of Warren Truss protected construction. Drag bracing and leading and trailing edge construction follow the generally accepted standards for wooden wings, metal compression members of elliptical section being used and attached by fittings. The details of which are shown in one of the accompanying illustrations. Adapters and tail surfaces follow the same construction standards and, as in the case of the wings are covered with fabric.

The wings are struts in plan form and built in four sections without a center section. Their total area is 427 sq. ft. of which 30 sq. ft. constitute the four ailerons. The N-22 aileron section is employed. Chord and gap are both 6 ft., and 6 in. at points a strutter is employed in the wing setting. Both wings are set at equal incidence and dihedral, the incidence being 2 deg. and the dihedral 31 deg.

**ALUMINUM ALLOY** is used for the most part in the construction of the hull, shaping the highly stressed parts where steel is employed. No rivets whatsoever are used in the primary structure, fabrication being accomplished entirely through the use of 10-32 trim head machine screws and water tightness accomplished by the use of marine glue and tape at all the joints and close fitting of the machine parts.

The design of the hull is such that all fastening and fast assembly is done from the outside, all sheeting to fast and as weighing is required, and relatively few sections are used for the structural members. The sheet-



The "Commuter" on the water with wheels extended during emergency landing by the driver alone.

iron alloy sheet used for the hull bottom are  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in thickness, while those for the sides are  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. There are some 13 sheets employed in the construction of the entire hull and the maximum sheet width is 48 in. The sheets are cut and drilled in template several at a time, after which as many as possible of the stiffening members of the structure are bolted to them. Diagonal structural members are bolted to the side sheets while bulkheads and floor trusses are attached to the bottom sheets. After this has been completed, the final assembly consists mainly of bolting these hull and other main structural members to the inside of the hull. Each bolt is lubricated in marine glue before the assembly and service conditions have proven that it is unnecessary to pass the bolts after the stress washers tightened partly due to the marine glue and partly to the closeness of the bolt spaces.

The floor trusses are tied into the longitudinal stiffening members, front and rear, and consist of sheet material with lightning bolts. The sheet material is maintained by vertical stiffeners made up from sheet stock formed into single flanged V-sections. This general type of reinforcement is also used in other parts in the hull and floats. These frames are on 7 in. centers at the top.

Seven bulkheads are provided, built up of aluminum alloy section with square tube V reinforcement, tubing being 1 1/2 x 1/2 in. Water tight bulkheads are installed fore and aft. A padded buffer is built into the nose.

**WING PLANTS** are similar in construction to the hull and each has two water-tight bulkheads and three compartments. As in the case of the hull, no burping of sheet material is necessary and all final assembly is accomplished by bolting externally applied angle section members. Each float is attached to the wing by four bolts and braced on the inboard side with aluminum alloy struts. The vertical struts supporting the floats pass through the upper surface of the floats and are anchored in castings attached by steel bolts to the structure members in the fore and aft compartments.

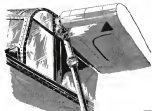
As previously mentioned, the floats are such that a

minimum of section types and sizes is used in the hull and float structures. All of these are standard Aluminex Company sections with the possible exception of the hull which is similar to the standard Aluminex Company number of this type but is slightly different in dimensions. The chord angle number is 13x14x4 in., the keelsons are  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. half oval, top flanges are 1x4x14 in. angle. Diaphragms are 4x14x14 in. half angle and the sheet stiffening members are 1x4x14 in. half angle. In addition to these and the wing section and in the bulkhead, the only other member employed in the primary structure, is a 4x4x4 in. angle which is used in a number of appropriate places.

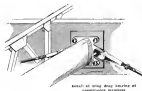
Following a number of modifications, the retractable landing gear finally adopted for the "Commuter" is cable operated. This landing gear was designed to reproduce the hydraulic type of the earlier models and has a number of advantages, the principal of which is the weight saving of 30 to 40 lb. which it represents. In addition it makes it possible to drive the wheels entirely out of the water and therefore eliminates the undesirable effect of spray being thrown up about the windows.

Each portion of the landing gear consists essentially of a center axle and a retracting arm attached symmetrically to the lower and upper ends of a standard Travel Air shock strut. The axle unit is constructed around a chrome molybdenum steel tubing and 8.5x10 Goodrich low pressure tires are used.

The retracting mechanism hand crank is located at the left side of the right hand, forward seat in such a position as to be accessible to the occupants of both front seats. Reduction and transmission of forces required in raising and lowering the gear from the shock strut and retracting arm connection to the hand crank are obtained by means of sprockets, chains and gear gears. The retracting arm has an angle bracket of approximately 180 deg., carrying the shock strut through a slot in the wing to its upper or lower position. The retracting mechanism is locked in the normal positions by a ratchet operated by a lever located at the rear of the hand crank. Adjustable stops have been provided on the hand crank shaft to prevent stress being placed on the retracting



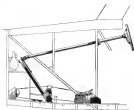
Retracting arm and operation of the Commuter retractable landing gear. This electric mechanism was adapted after the hydraulic system was discarded.



Detail of wing being lowered at compression structure.



Wing construction showing compression struts and ribs.



The main gear elevator control with rollers for movement from the pilot's cockpit.



Above: Detail of retracting the main gear to the landing position. Below: The extremely rugged main gear. This structure is first locked in the air, making land on wheels. A section of landing on the bottom, shown from the outside.

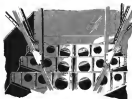


## INTERESTING DESIGN DETAILS OF THE

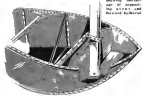
## AND CONSTRUCTION "Commuter"



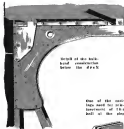
Detail of main landing gear, showing rollers in the pilot's cockpit.



Main construction showing the floor beams and fuselage structure as well as fuselage and side structure.



Main construction showing the floor beams and fuselage structure as well as fuselage and side structure.



Detail of the main landing gear mechanism from the pilot's cockpit.



One of the main landing gear rollers in the pilot's cockpit.



Diagram of the fuselage construction showing the floor beams and fuselage structure as well as fuselage and side structure.

mechanism when upper and lower portions are reached with the hand crank. The force required on the hand crank to raise and lower the wheels is small, as is also the time required for either operation. This landing gear has been adapted as an improvement over the hydraulically actuated type in the first models and the subsequent mechanical type with air wheels and no shock struts.

The tail skid of the "Conquestor" has also undergone a process of evolution. In its present form it consists essentially of a vertically actuated standard Aero shock strut with fixed landing members attached to the hull structure at the step.

THE operation of the "Conquestor" is extremely simple in the matter of landing, no effort being made to cover the structural members, as it was thought desirable that they be exposed so that it is possible to watch them for any signs of trouble. Two handles on the emergency exit are provided. Likewise it is specially guarded through the rear hatch and down a companion ladder to the rear compartment. Baggage racks are placed on



The engine struts and engine mount are made up on a sub-assembly and installed at the appropriate stage in the production process.

either side of the aisle passing through the rear compartment. The cabin is 7 ft. long by 4 ft. wide and has 4 ft. 4 in. headroom. It seats four persons, the two in the front seats having complete dual control. The emergency exit is rectangular in form and is located in the deck above the two rear seats.

For convenience in unloading, jacking up coverings and other operations on the water a hatch has been provided in the forward deck and easily accessible from the pilot's seat. All ground tackle is kept in the forward compartment. This hatch is so designed that it can be opened only from the inside and serves as an additional exit in case of emergency or for victims rescued on the water. When closed it is held rigid in place by means of a shock cord arrangement.

In addition to the main engine in the control compartment a station is called in the dual wheel control which is screwdriven manual in design. Instead of the usual hinged column moving backward and forward for

steering control the wheels are mounted on a push pull shaft passing through the instrument board and fitted to a column or arm some distance forward of the control compartment. In this way control speed is kept down and it is unnecessary for the pilot to check over the control column as going in and out of the turn. The rudder pedal design is also of interest. Each set of pedals is mounted on a pair of cross bars so protected that the foot follows a lower rather than a circular path when the pedal is actuated. In accord with the conventional practice, engine instruments are on the right of the cockpit and flight instruments on the left with an appreciable offset in the center to provide access to the forward compartment of the hatch.

AN EXHAUSTIVE MEASUREMENT of the tail surfaces are of a conventional wood and fabric construction, the total vertical area being 45.2 sq. ft., of which 16.3 sq. ft. is canvased fabric. This surface has a travel of plus or minus 30 deg. and approximately ten per cent of its area is forward of the hinge bar. The total horizontal area is 62 sq. ft. of which 22 sq. ft. constitutes the elevator area. The elevator travel is approximately 35 deg. up and 20 deg. down and the range of the stabilizer adjustment minus 35 deg. to plus 15 deg. Both the elevator and rudder hinge are located 58 ft. 6 in. from the center of gravity. The aileron travel is 20 deg. up and 20 deg. down.

The Wright J-6 engine is fitted with a 9 ft. diameter steel propeller and is mounted on engine struts between the wings. Fuel tanks are built in the inboard ends of the lower wings and are two in number, each having a capacity of 35 gal. The engine struts and engine mounting are completely cantilevered as a unit in the main supporting structure and attached to the hull. Four bolts are used to attach the upper wings to the engine struts which, like the interplane "X" struts, are made of aluminum alloy tubing.

The specifications as furnished by the manufacturers are as follows:

Dimensions		Weights	
Overall length	32 ft. 0 in.	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Overall height	10 ft. 0 in.	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Wing span	32 ft. 0 in.	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.
Wing area	110 sq. ft.		
Wing loading	11.8 lb./sq. ft.		
Empty weight	1,275 lb.		
Maximum weight	1,500 lb.		
Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.		
Wing loading	11.8 lb./sq. ft.		
Wing area	110 sq. ft.		

Engine Data		Weights	
Engine	Wright J-6	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Power	150 hp.	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Power capacity	175 hp.	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.

Armament		Weights	
Machine gun	1	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Machine gun	1	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Machine gun	1	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.
Machine gun	1	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Machine gun	1	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Machine gun	1	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.

Engine		Weights	
Engine	Wright J-6	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Engine	Wright J-6	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Engine	Wright J-6	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.
Engine	Wright J-6	Empty weight	1,275 lb.
Engine	Wright J-6	Maximum weight	1,500 lb.
Engine	Wright J-6	Maximum gross weight	1,750 lb.

## AVIATION

July 3, 1930

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# PILOT LICENSES vs. Solo Time

## A Report on a Questionnaire Survey to Obtain a Cross-Section of Past, Present and Future Activities of Licensed Pilots and Students in This Country

By R. SIDNEY BOWEN, JR.  
Associate Editor of *Aircraft*

THE result of a questionnaire is usually a great mass of statistics at first glance baffling to the average reader. However, when carefully analyzed and broken down into a concise and understandable form they present a story that is not only interesting, but of real value. Particularly is this so in the case of a questionnaire survey on various types of flying licenses recently conducted by the Standard and Research Department of AVIATION.

The research showing that some two thousand men and women hold a flying license in this country, it was decided to select a definite number of names from the lists of private and transport license holders. The primary purpose of the survey was to analyze the flying records of those who had just taken up the art, to write merely flying for pleasure, and of those who were seriously earning their livelihood by their flying ability. Therefore, in view of the fact that a limited commercial license counts properly as a stepping stone toward the securing of a transport license it was not believed to be of any significance to the survey to consider the limited commercial pilot.

The number to be selected from each list was put at 250, and in order that a fair cross-sectional picture might be obtained the names were picked entirely at random. Every state was represented. The percentage of records was quite pleasing, a total of 54 per cent of the holders of private pilot's licenses, and in their cards, and in the case of the transport pilot license holders the return percentage was only five per cent less.

To supplement the license picture, a similar questionnaire was sent out to a number of holders of student permits about 18 months before the date of the survey.

An insight here has been, however, the percentage of returns from the student permit questionnaire was only half as great as in the case of the private pilot and transport pilot questionnaires. Undoubtedly, in the 18 months since their permits were issued a number of the students had completely disappeared from the statistical roster. Those who have entirely dropped their interest in flying would be least likely to bother with a questionnaire of any sort.

To begin with it seems that the student permit

holders, about a year, were attracted to the art of flying by the financial possibilities it seemed to hold for him or her who finally contacted Department of Commerce permission to fly for hire or reward. But as the vast majority of these that lucky day is still far distant, for the reason that "hands on land are useless" to permit John Jones or Mary Brown to continue with instruction for the time being. However, practically all of the improperly or automatically issued persons are still very busy about flying, and are most desirous of carrying on with the good work at the earliest opportunity.

There are, though, one or two outstanding exceptions. One gentleman who claims a total of 115 hours of solo has finished his aeronautical preparation due to the fact that "there is too much red tape attached to the securing of a private license." Another chap has been forced to do the same thing as a result of "orders from headquarters." In this particular case Mother and Dad represent headquarters, and refuse to continue to provide the money necessary for the delivery of instruction costs. But the vast majority, as already mentioned, are very eager to make the grade to that guarded land where a transport license is the card of admission.

THE private pilot returns bring out some particularly interesting points. One, for example, is that over 74 per cent of persons now holding private pilot licenses learned to fly and obtained that license in the last three years. And so be even more surprising, a little over a third of that number have written to fly only during the last year. Another item of interest is the fact that 41 per cent of the private pilots making returns have only 100 hours or less of solo time to their credit. From the mere mass of statistics we find that 40 per cent of the private license group took up flying for a sport.

Therefore, we are able to obtain some idea relative to the amount of flying being done this day by private pilots whose incomes permit them to fly for pleasure. The answer seems to be that in reality there is not nearly as much pleasure flying being done as we sometimes believe. A man who averages little more than 30 hours a year, or a total of 180 hours in three years can hardly even call himself a pilot. The deduction is that a great number of private pilots are barely doing the minimum amount of flying required to continue to hold rating.

And from inquiries as to the reason for such a limited amount of flying by a select group of private pilot license holders it develops that cost, inadequate airports, and the price of other business are the principle governing factors.

The present day possibilities of the private plane market are somewhat dimmed when we study the questionnaire returns. The figures tell us that only 36 per cent of the private pilots who answered our questionnaire own their own planes. If that were a representative figure for the total number of private pilot license holders, which on March 31, 1930 was 4602, it would work out that there are approximately 1510 private owners or part-owners among the private licensees. In practice that figure is undoubtedly too high. For the proportion of returns to such a questionnaire would be higher among owners than non-owners.

Some idea as to the number of war time pilots who have again felt the urge to fly may be obtained from the knowledge that 15 per cent of the private pilot license holders have been flying over ten years. This percentage of course does not include transport pilots with over ten years of flying. Yet once again, we find that the amount of private flying is quite limited, because only a little less than half of the "ten year" private license holders have over 3000 hours to their credit. And of course in most cases the average "ten year" pilot has not been flying since the war ended.

Although 35 per cent of the private pilot license holders took up flying with the idea of securing a flying position, only 2.4 per cent are now engaged in such work. 67 per cent in the industry, and 7 per cent in non-aeronautical companies. That would seem to indicate that the remaining 22.6 per cent are still job-hunting, or else have temporarily given up the idea of flying for a living while they work for a better income. Yet on the other hand it may be that some are "perhaps" their flying ability helped them to secure a new flying position that the remaining 11 per cent at that 33 per cent of the private license-holders are so engaged in the industry which of course indicates that some of those who previously took up flying as a sport changed their minds later on. Of the latter group license holders 46 per cent are not connected with the industry in any way. The other 14 per cent were of uncertain status.

The break-down of the survey according to time in the air, and length of time flying should prove of interest:

Flying 1 year or less	14 per cent
Flying 1 year to 3 years	4 per cent
Flying 3 years to 5 years	4 per cent
Flying 5 years to 10 years	4 per cent
Flying over 10 years	10 per cent
Who owns of 600 hours or less	11 per cent
Who owns of 151 to 300 hours	11 per cent
Who owns of 301 to 450 hours	12 per cent
Who owns of 451 to 600 hours	12 per cent
Who owns of over 600 hours	5 per cent

The transport pilot license survey given in quite a different plane. In the first place, 80 per cent of the questionnaire who hold a transport pilot license have been engaged in flying for over ten years. And what is perhaps even more significant 43 per cent are now engaged in flying, 42 per cent in the industry, and 7 per cent in a flying capacity in non-aeronautical companies. Some of the others not included in the above percentages are probably out of a job just now or else have given up flying for a drink job... the statistics show as

that of the total number of transport pilot license holders who answered our questionnaire, 85.1 per cent have been professionally employed as pilots at some time or other.

Of course it should be taken into consideration that estimates a questionnaire is not accurately answered. And in this case some transport pilot holders may have considered war service as professional piloting. To many of us war flying was pleasure flying, at least!

The same idea may have held true with reference to the reason for taking up flying. The answers to that question show that 40 per cent took up flying as a profession, and 35 per cent took up flying for military reasons. But in view of the fact that six years ago there was little if any commercial flying, and that 30 per cent of the present transport pilot license holders have been flying for over ten years, it follows that a great number of the transport pilot included in the 40 per cent figure were in reality originally military pilots. This statement presumably applies to their reason for continuing after the war. Of the remaining 25 per cent who stated a reason for learning to fly, 16 per cent did so for sport, and 9 per cent took instruction because of their general interest in the air.

One particular item of interest brought out by the questionnaire returns is the fact that only 10 per cent of the present transport pilot license holders have learned to fly since 1927. But in the case of private pilot license it will be remembered that over seventy-four per cent learned to fly and obtained their license during the last three years. That it would seem to work out that, because of the fact that March 31, 1930 transport license regulations total 489, a mere 480 of the unnumbered persons who took up flying three years ago, as those that now have been able to get in the necessary 200 hours and obtain a transport license. And of that number, a considerable fraction would have got in while their flying time in the military services as merchant seamen, not in commercial flying.

As regards the number of transport pilots owning their own planes, we find that of the total only 23 per cent claim to be the fortunate. However, here again the stress of incorrect understanding of the questionnaire may come into play. Undoubtedly, in any event, most such machines are owned for commercial reasons.

Once a war machine has transport license it seems to connect with flying as a means of earning a living and better. At least the survey indicates as much. For of the total transport pilots who answered the questionnaire only 16 per cent are connected with the industry as a non-flying capacity. And contrary to the private pilots, of whom 46 per cent are not connected with the industry in any way, only 5 per cent of the transport license-holders applying are outside of the industry and the military services.

The solo-time and length-of-flying breakdown for transport pilots is as follows:

Flying 1 year or less	5 per cent
Flying 1 year to 3 years	10 per cent
Flying 3 years to 5 years	10 per cent
Flying 5 years to 10 years	10 per cent
Flying over 10 years	10 per cent
Who owns of 100 hours or less	5 per cent
Who owns of 101 to 200 hours	10 per cent
Who owns of 201 to 300 hours	10 per cent
Who owns of 301 to 400 hours	10 per cent
Who owns of 401 to 500 hours	10 per cent
Who owns of 501 to 600 hours	10 per cent
Who owns of over 600 hours	10 per cent

## GREATER Sales Effort NEEDED

*The Business Market is Ready for Development But Customers Must Be Supplied with Accurate Cost Figures*

By C. H. BIDDLECOMBE

THE AIRPLANE INDUSTRY has now reached the situation common to many industries in this age of mass production—a condition which may be summed up as excess of production facilities over immediately apparent sales outlets. A newer and more efficient method of selling is needed for the future, if the factories are to be kept on full time and in a position to pay dividends or the capital to truly rest in the past two years. With a few brilliant exceptions, that selling ability is rather noticeably absent in the aeronautical industry; the great majority of salesmen are reasonably efficient in speaking to the converted, but are still very inexperienced in convincing the hesitants.

The chief survey of many salesmen has consisted of demonstrating a particular make of airplane to a customer who had already decided to buy an airplane, the salesman's job thus being dictated to convince the prospect of the superiority of his own product in comparison to that of a rival firm.

Today that type of customer has disappeared together with the happy days when factory extensions could be financed from the funds on deposit and it is questionable whether they will ever reappear. The "buy-to-sell" market of 1928 and early 1929 was composed largely of newly formed air mail and passenger lines, old established lines renewing obsolete equipment, flying schools, and private individuals profiting from the bull market in securities. Comparatively few airplane purchases were made by business firms and individuals for the purpose of transporting men and material from point to point as a matter of every-day business routine.

As a result of this narrow restriction of sales outlets—narrow in comparison to production capacity—there were between five hundred and one thousand airplanes left unsold as to ultimate use at the close of 1929, this is between 9 per cent and 19 per cent of the year's total output of 5,587 commercial airplanes.

It is probable that in 1930 the flying schools will in most cases be fully engaged by reason of their past purchases, the transport lines will have at least enough to meet a number of places, and the purchase of airplanes as luxuries will be unimportant.

There thus remains the sale of aircraft on the basis of their use to provide more efficient means of transport for business purposes, efficiency in the case being trans-

lated in terms of dollars and cents. It is in this direction that much energy and intelligence can profitably be expended by distributors and dealers, assisted by the sales promotion organizations of the factories.

The territory of every distributor and dealer should be divided into sections of suitable area or type and the responsibility for each section placed with an individual salesman. This man should then make a careful study of the business houses in his territory, selecting those engaged in type and volume of business that involves much traveling by airplane. Then estimates can be obtained as to the extent and nature of the trips made by traveling employees and the cost over a given period of time while covering a given area of territory. The next step is of course to study the possible application of an airplane to the traveling carried out and to prepare cost figures showing the expenditure needed by any particular firm in making its personnel on persons in a company-owned plane. It is at this point that the majority of airplane salesmen fail to deliver the goods; very few of them have any really definite figures on operating costs over a long period, at the airplane they are trying to sell.

ACCURATE INFORMATION on this subject is obviously of prime importance to a prospective purchaser who has to be convinced of the advantages of using an airplane for business reasons. Published figures regarding time from one town to another are very lacking and misleading in the last resort, ranging as they do from an operating cost of \$500.00 per mile in the routing of one manufacturer up to over \$1.00 per mile according to one of the air mail companies. It is thus imperative that a prospective traveler in airplane transportation should be presented with a complete statement regarding his investment, showing the cost to him of operating a particular airplane under conditions governing its use in his case.

A carefully prepared widespread review of the type described, based on the local individual salesman or dealer having reasonably complete and accurate knowledge of local conditions and airplane operating costs, will without doubt produce an important volume of sales. The selling has to be done, however, in the customer's office with concrete data and figures, rather than out at the airport after a good lunch in a fine flying day.



Mechanics of Army Department of  
Aircrafts working a Pratt and  
Whitney "Wasp" engine

By ERNEST W. FAIR

**N**EXT to the problem of making the construction pay, perhaps the most difficult of present problems relating to aircraft service stations is economically equipping the station to perform the greatest possible service.

Too much space and too little space can be utilized in a service station. However, the size of the station must be decided before one can even consider equipment. And in deciding the size the operator had well consider just what sort of service he is going to give. If he is going to make his service complete in every respect he should provide the largest possible space for his organization.

One cannot completely overhaul a plane in the same space and with the same equipment that one can perform a small service job on the landing gear or the wings of a plane. Nor can one perform complete engine overhauls (where the greatest revenue will come in) in the same space that one can adjust the timing valves on the same engine.

For the purposes of this article we had best divide service stations into three classes. First, the "super" service station which would provide for practically all overhaul and service; second a service station of moderate investment and providing merely the same proportionate service to customers; and third, the ordinary service station, equipped to make minor overhauls and repairs and perform quick service operations.

After having decided the space needed for the station let us take up the general equipment and lay-out before considering specific tools. Any station that is to give the maximum performance must provide an "in-line" service, i.e., a service which progresses along a definite line, from the point where the plane enters the line to when it emerges complete and ready to fly. The arrangement of this space depends on the type of housing arrangement but in general a large hangar-type station arranged so that repairs can be made "in-line," can be utilized

in 150,000 sq. ft. or less. The more space and equipment the greater number of planes the department can handle. Consequently it is impossible to fix any limitation on floor space. However, the systematic arrangement of equipment can be so perfected that service output can be flexible. Flexibility is a point the operator should well consider so that he may be able to handle peak time service and at the same time not have a loss occurring during all periods.

Service lines show that the successful station should be equipped first, with a flexible "in-line" system of service. The plane enters at the start, the engine and wings are removed from the fuselage, as needed, and the fuselage is sent on down the line while each of the two assemblies mentioned are repaired in their separate departments. Landing gear follows, then controls, fuelage stuff, etc. controls back on again, etc.

The use of an in-line overhead rail system is of great importance in an aircraft service station. This may be mounted on a circular track running the outside of the hangar or building. Or it may be a single track in the center of the building upon which assemblies may be transported. It will be found that such a system is highly efficient, and supplemented by a few stands and dollies will permit an immense time saving and labor efficient assembly and disassembly.

Ample handroom should be provided throughout the structure and particularly at the beginning of the disassembly line when the engine is taken from the plane. Hoisting devices may be used whereby in the center rail hoist and crane (as we have been calling it) or may be dispensed with. However, a medium sized hoisting device will prove well worthy of the investment required and will be valuable in making speedy production and service. Tools and equipment should be so placed that service mechanics will have ample space to work in, and so that any number may work simultaneously on an individual plane. This means cost saving and faster work during times when the organization is crowded to capacity. Hence, if considered beforehand, will save much worry.

If convenient overhaul and repair is to be given, and that job or rooms should be provided and these should be mounted close to disassembly but immediately after wing and engine disassembly, and following the stripping of all detachable parts from the fuselage. These rooms would not require over 500 sq. ft. of space for a medium sized plant.

An individual section of the station, directly in the

## THE AIRCRAFT SERVICE STATION

*the Efficient and Profitable Operation of the Small or Large Service*

disassembly line and to expand that it is directly in, vertical line with a cone-shaped assembly position may be utilized for wing work. This should be located in proximity to the engine disassembly and assembly section. Wing repair, fabric and dope equipment and a paint booth should be provided. Every effort should be made to insure correct and ample ventilation for the paint booth or booths. Drying booths must not be overlooked. The wing shop should contain wood-working machinery to manufacture all necessary wood parts for repair and replacement work.

After the parts have been removed from the fuselage it is advisable to have them sent to a cleaning shop and if this is complete, both chemical and mechanical means should be at hand for cleaning, for removing grease as well as old paint. The mechanical method which consists of sand blast and wire brush is generally recommended.

Dials, screws and drying media might well be considered as additional equipment for the painting and drying department, particularly for fuselage work. After a fuselage is removed from the paint shop it is advisable to have the next section in line be an overhaul shop. Then after these repairs have been made and a complete overhaul given the fuselage structure an return to the paint shop for final coating and speed up operations.

It is advisable in planning the assembly part of the station to bear in mind that extra room is advisable.

Some successful stations have twice as much floor space for assembly as disassembly, not only to insure speedy and complete work but to insure perfection so that an overhaul job need be sent back for working over (which will run up profits).

If a complete station is to be had, equipment had best be considered for every individual requirement so that a perfect job may be secured. Equipment is necessary for power plant installation, electric wiring, metal fabricating, blast treating, a large, toolmakers' machinery, tank painting, etc. If heat-treating is to be used it is necessary to install an elevator for furnace and molten salt baths with both oil and water quenching tanks.

Repair of control cables, with sufficient reserve supply to perform this, should be considered as well as a propeller balancing stand and tools for setting blade angles and checking track on propellers.

The cleaning equipment used in the overhaul plant should be carefully chosen and had out. Two large pressure and blast machines each fitted with two hoses and capable of blasting all parts from any fuselage frame will be sufficient for almost any engine shop.

The screened use of metal plane coverings and the trend in that direction is the future should be given consideration, and tools provided for such operations. Both wire brushes for cleaning the granges of duralumin



Working up aircraft tends not coping a pressure work



may award a contract at a rate not to exceed \$0.45 per mile for such weight space to the lowest responsible bidder "who has licensed and operated an air transport service on a fixed daily schedule over a distance of not less than 250 miles and for a period of not less than six months prior to the advertisement for bids." One serious difficulty to this provision promises to be the interpretation of the phrase "fixed daily schedule." A large number of passenger carrying lines have been operated over routes and for the period designated but only on a six-day a week schedule and the question is raised to rise whether six days a week means "daily." The object of this provision, of course, is to give the preference to those who have pioneered in the air transport service.

THE GREAT DIFFICULTY of interpretation, however, which promises to arise from this provision is based upon differences of opinion as to the cases in which it may be applied. Some of the prospective bidders have assumed that the clause means that where a company has been operating on a daily schedule for six months over a particular route and bids are called far over that route such company would be given the preference. They have been surprised to learn, however, that a widely different interpretation is being given in some responsible quarters, namely, that the clause means that when a company has been operating on a daily schedule over any route in the United States for more than six months, such company will have the privilege of tendering for any route advertised in its district under this reading of the clause, it is urged that if a company has been operating any in the middle-west under conditions laid down in the Bill, it may bid, if it desires, for a New England route, giving up, if it desires, to another company its middle-western route. It is probably too early to predict which interpretation will be adopted. It seems certain that both will be urged upon the Postmaster General with probable appeals to the Comptroller General and to the Courts.

A highly important provision of the new law is that under which the Postmaster General is to determine any mail route certificate up to two years to any air mail contractor who has operated successfully for not less than two years. The result of such a certificate would be to give a monopoly during good behavior, to a contractor for transporting the mail over the route indicated at rates to be fixed by the Postmaster General at not to exceed \$0.25 per mile.

The provision, however, of the new law which promises to give rise to the greatest amount of controversy is a new section providing that "the Postmaster General when, in his judgment, the public interest may be promoted thereby, may make any extension or consolidation of routes which are now or may hereafter be established." Exactly what this means no one connected with the enterprise appears to know exactly. Undoubtedly it will have to be clarified first by the Comptroller General, and probably finally by the Courts.

Probably an illustration will make clear the implications in this provision of law. On one of the routes which has been approved by the Interdepartmental Committee but where an air mail contract has not yet been awarded, one company claims to have operated a passenger service for more than six months on a daily schedule and, therefore, claims that under the new law it has a prerogative right to get the contract for the mail over the route in question. Operating into one of the terminals of this route and according to another city

precisely at right angles to this route is another company which has carried the air mail but no passengers for a considerable time. This latter company claims that the Postmaster General should "reopen" its route under the clause in question over the route owned by the first line. This particular route covers more than 600 miles and the company carrying passengers over the route contends that to call a 600 mile long line an "extension" is ridiculous.

Again, and as a result of this clause in the new Air Mail Law there have been repeated conferences, between practically all of the air mail carriers, in Washington, discussing "consolidation of routes." Obviously the object is by the use of this clause and the use of the clause giving the Postmaster General the right to issue ten year route certificates, to avoid, as much as possible, competitive bidding which is uncertain, uncertain to the business and, to a certain degree at least, uneconomical. This situation poses a problem for the Postmaster General, as to why the theory of competitive bidding for air mail contracts is continued. The practice has been out of vogue for many years for railway mail. As I have pointed out in another place (Air Transportation and its Legal Problems, Aviation March 28, 1939) all railroads are declared by law to be public roads and required to transport such mail matter as may be offered to them by the Postmaster General under conditions and regulations prescribed by him and at rates fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Only in special cases, requiring higher rates than the average, are special contracts made with the railroads and it is specifically provided by law that the Postmaster General may enter into contracts for carrying the mails with railroad companies without issuing bids therefor.

The carrying of the mail by the railroads is altogether a question of service. A railroad carrying the mail between specific points continues to carry the bulk of it until another railroad operating between the same points establishes better service and better schedules. For example, the New York Central Railroad and the Pennsylvania almost monopolize the railroad mail service between New York and Chicago because they began it many years ago and have continued to meet the competition. For a railroad to take mail service away from another railroad, it is not sufficient that it offer a faster mail service. It must give better service. Better schedules and other features of service outstrip competition day by day and year by year since the Postmaster General—or the Postoffice Department—and as a result it can hardly be disputed that the railway mail service of the United States is the most efficient in the world.

THE PROVISION is, therefore, why the same general type should not be applied to the air mail; that is why every air transport company operating on regular schedules over fixed routes should not be permitted air mail carriers and why the one given the best service in the judgment of the Postoffice Department should not carry the bulk of the mail over that route.

Of course, this means that a large amount of discretion would have to be left in the hands of the Postmaster General but this discretion has been exercised for many years in the case of the railroad mail without the check of competitive bidding. One result of the present system may be trading in bidding and the impossibility of persons operating air transport companies, or contemplating such operations, knowing whether or not they will get the benefit of carrying the air mail.

## Racing Seaplanes . . .

By JOHN S. KEAN  
Project Engineer  
Sears Aircraft Factory

### PRESENT AND FUTURE

*The Last of a Series of Three Articles, Which Includes a Discussion of the General Program and Estimates the Necessary Financial Outlay*

NO RACING PROGRAM can be expected to be successful if limitations are placed on the time available for development or if the project is unduly financed. The British have on several occasions refused to enter planes which were not thoroughly tested in time for the race. It is apparent from the success of the recent British races that such policy is conducive to reasonable development and that the decision to build contests at two year intervals has no way retarded progress. Apparently, if satisfactory progress toward the supply of a suitable engine has been made the short time now in which a plane may, with reasonable expectation of success, be developed, is one year.

The construction of the training wing plane should be expedited so that it is available for training of pilots as early in the program as possible. It should preferably, be completed before the design of the actual racer is completed since, in such case, the needs of the flight team may be of value in the construction of the racing plane. Since, however, this ideal condition will probably never obtain, the best solution would require that the training plane be placed in operation as early as possible and used to amplify the data obtainable from wind tunnel and model tests.

As soon as possible thereafter the experimental racer should be produced. This plane should be used to obtain data regarding the actual performance and characteristics of the type and to test the performance of the power plant and accessories.

THE INITIAL tests should consist of the normal bench tests for checking the performance of the engine. After this has proven to be satisfactory the plane should

be launched, without power, and towed at various speeds under various wind and water conditions. Towing across wind and in rough water should furnish especially valuable information. The plane should then be anchored at a buoy under conditions approximating the most unfavorable that can be expected to obtain during the race. This test will furnish information regarding stability of the plane structure to withstand danger while exposed to the ordinary hazards of wind and water experienced in actual racing procedure.

Upon completion of the sea-power tests the plane should be launched under power and thoroughly tested at first, while towing at slow speeds and then at increasing speeds up to slightly below take-off speed. Take-off should, however, not be attempted. These towing tests should be carried out under various wind and water conditions, in order that complete data regarding water characteristics may be obtained.

In particular it is important to discover whether or not spray, thrown over the wings, is a serious problem,

The "Seafarer" built by 1939 which was in service from March to April, 1939.





whether "water backing" of the propeller is present and whether the plane answers planning and take-off speeds within such time as will indicate that a propeller efficiency sufficient for take-off will be expected in the actual racing plane. All these features are worked out, if discovered too late in the construction program, might easily present problems of sufficiently serious nature as to be unsolvable within the time limit then available.

This plane should not be flown. When the water performance has been established by thorough tests and sufficient operation of the power plant has been obtained to establish beyond reasonable doubt that this installation will function properly the engine and all equipment should be removed and the complete structure of the plane subjected to sand loading tests to confirm design strength calculations.

Upon completion of these tests and examination of the engine used in this experimental race the designer will be in excellent position to improve the actual race or motors in any respect found to be unsatisfactory. He will be able to save weight by reducing the size of members where the latter have been found by sand loading to be over strong or heavy and to increase the strength where deficiencies in this feature have been discovered.

It is the experience of most racing plane designers that the successful operation of the power plant is the feature most difficult to obtain in a racing plane. It is a safe assumption that power plant installation which functions properly during prolonged taxing and beach tests will also function properly in the air. Thus, too the damage to the engine is most likely to be caused by taxing in the water after starting with the oil and coolant temperatures are low considerable because of the lack of sufficient air stream to carry the heat away and of the baffling in which the whole structure is subjected while the plane is getting under way. It is reasonable to assume that defects of the power plant which become sufficiently serious to leave large places out of the race have their actual completion during taxing.

## AVIATION

July 3, 1929

The prolonged taxing in which the experimental racing plane will be subjected should bring such defects to the fore in such manner that they will be evident upon take-down and inspection of the engine and this without undue danger to the pilot or plane.

Taken all in all the writer considers that the construction and exhibition of an experimental racing plane will be the heart of any future racing program and it will worth the considerable expense entailed by such a policy. If it is necessary for financial or other reasons to curtail a racing program the abandonment of the training racing plane rather than the experimental plane would be desirable.

IN THE EVENT of a future program would be complete without consideration of the financial problems concerned therewith. The cost of development of successful engines of one of the types discussed herein is of course, prohibitive but it seems reasonable that this cost need not exceed \$100,000 for the first engine after which subsequent engines could be produced for \$30,000 each. The figure of \$100,000 may therefore be accepted as one expenditure for engine development which must be made regardless of the number of actual motors finally produced. Similarly, the cost of providing the training racing plane, without engine, \$60,000 (assuming that the original engine will be used in this plane), the cost of the construction and test of the experimental racing plane \$90,000, and the cost of the engine for the latter, \$30,000, are also expenditures which should be made regardless of the number of motors built. The total, \$180,000, is therefore, in the following summary, designated the "fixed charges." It is assumed, of course, that the motors are all of the same general type. If the latter condition does not hold, this fixed charge must be multiplied by the number of such types.

There are numerous reasonable combinations of materials and types of planes which may be selected to the

## AVIATION

July 3, 1929

fixed racing team. Of these the following may be considered representative and the most likely to be adopted.

Case (a) One racer with no alternate plane.

Case (b) Three racers, with one alternate plane (a total of four) of all same type.

Case (c) Three planes, of different types and one alternate for each type (a total of six planes).

One spare engine for each motor but no spare engine for alternates would seem to be a reasonable provision. For case (a) the costs of equipment should be approximately as follows:

Fixed charges	\$180,000
Racing plane	60,000
Two engines (1 for use as motor; 1 for spare)	60,000
Engine parts and equipment	20,000
Total material costs	\$320,000

For case (b):

Fixed charges	\$180,000
4 RACING PLANE (of which 3 alternate)	240,000
\$60,000 each	240,000
4 Engines (one for each of 3 planes and 1 spare)	120,000
\$30,000 at \$10,000 each	120,000
Engine parts and equipment	40,000
Total material costs	\$580,000

For case (c), note these three types of planes and presumably of engines are involved the fixed charges of \$300,000 will be applicable to each type and the total fixed charge will be:

$$3 \times \$300,000 = \$900,000$$

Therefore for case (c):

Fixed charges	\$900,000
6 PLANE (one spare and one alternate of each type) without engine at \$60,000	360,000
6 Engines (one for each spare and 3 spare at \$30,000)	180,000
Engine parts and equipment	60,000
Total material costs	\$1,500,000

The cost of training pilots, providing ground crew, and transporting planes and equipment and personnel is not from the scope of the race and their maintenance should be about \$100,000 for case (a); \$300,000 for case (b), and \$900,000 for case (c), so the grand total of carrying out all the racing program outlined would be:

Case (a)

Material and Equipment Costs	\$320,000
Personnel, Maintenance and Transportation	200,000
Total	\$520,000

Case (b)

Material and Equipment Costs	\$580,000
Personnel, Maintenance and Transportation	300,000
Total	\$880,000

Case (c)

Material and Equipment Costs	\$1,500,000
Personnel, Maintenance and Transportation	900,000
Total	\$2,400,000

These cost figures are believed to be conservative, although exact cost figures for racing programs of the past are not available. In any case, the figures mentioned are much lower than those quoted (\$5,000,000) by the British and Italian governments for similar programs in 1929. It, therefore, seems certain that

foreign expenditures for racing programs will much exaggerated.

IN THE OPINION of the writer, the cost of the most profitable aviation race (a) outlined herein and amounting to slightly over \$500,000, is one which the aeronautical industry as a whole can well afford to expend with a reasonable hope of obtaining profitable returns in publicity and technical information derived therefrom.

It seems reasonable to expect that the plane, engine and commercial, of the next few years will reflect the influence of any racing development in this country, just as the British are said to contemplate the design of military and commercial planes around the 1930 hp. Red Bull engine of the S-6. In other instances, such as improved body forms and improved cooling facilities, developed as a result of racing plane practice, are incorporated in commercial airplanes, an improvement of at least 10 mph in high speed without increase in low speed is by no means impossible but is, rather, a logical development. The effect of such improvement would be such as to actually halve the cost of a racing program in the field of commercial aviation alone and within a few years the profits in increased number of military contracts designed to obtain planes of improved performance derived from the racing program would be such as to bring the racing costs to the attention industry of a racing program.

It will be noted that the aviation industry has been assumed to bear the expense of a racing program. It seems certain that this would be largely true. However, there are other sources of financial backing, namely, the Government, the extremely large number of wealthy sportsmen of whom not a few are extremely interested in aviation, the stock and file of aviation enthusiasts and the general public. The degree of participation of any of these agencies in a racing program is, however, beyond the scope of this article.

However, it seems that with the resources of the country to draw upon some sort of financial combination adequate for proper backing of a racing program should not be impossible.

For instance, the aeronautically interested portion of the public can do no better than follow the lead set by the backers of the various endeavors of the American Air Club in pushing order. The defense of this most famous trophy of American sporting circles is an event of financial magnitude approaching the cost of competition in the Schuster Trophy Race. But as a purely sporting affair from which no valuable technical nor financial benefits are expected. How much more worthwhile is the competition for the aeronautical equivalent of the America's Cup, involving for the successful nation the potential supremacy in civil and military aviation.

In conclusion, the writer again desires to emphasize the importance in the development of future motors of aviation in the speed range of racing planes. Two of the principal reasons for improvements here, for the time being at least, have already been mentioned, high power requirements indicated for future motors and in the other case by the fact that wings for present day motors are already so small that future decrease in their size would result in only minor improvements in speed and that at the expense of poorer performance and increased landing speed. Improvements tending toward reduced drag and greater speed range are, therefore, very much in order and would seem to be the goal toward which designers of the immediate future should strive.



The 47th day of the 1929 race with water backing, postponed.

























## SIDE SLIPS

AVIATION  
July 3, 1938

By  
Robert R. Osborn

### OUR BANGALOR PLANE DEPARTMENT

The following story comes to us from R.H.D., Jr., who claims it has gone the rounds of everybody in a few days. It is a good story, but we at least hadn't heard it before and so we are printing it on the chance that some other pilot might find it also. A group of pilots were talking together at one of the recent air shows, at which those not quite so brave pilots had been told as might have been expected. An old lady had been listening very intently to whatever the veterans she could overhear and when the group broke up she touched one of the men on the sleeve. "Young man," she said, "it is very interesting to me to hear you aviationists talk. Please tell me one thing I have wanted to ask someone who really knows. What is the greatest danger in aviation today?" The answer was, "Structural failure, structural."

A news item from California tells of a local pilot who, after some years of flying around the local airport, started off on his first cross-country. His program took him first through the field road, "Five trip. Land O'K. A good day. Send propeller."

The telephone might not be so handy as it sounds on first reading. French have reported cross-country trips that have made when they would have been glad to make a landing even if smoke died.

A news item in the London Times tells of an interesting incident in the night mail run across the Channel. The pilot left Brussels for London late one night but after crossing the English coast found no confidence to land that he decided to return. However, when he reached the town of Blackstone the weather had closed in and he decided to stay over the lights of the town until things cleared up a bit. After circling the town at a height of three hundred feet for many minutes no answer people became, contacted with the tower of the London airport that tower officials called on Croydon to ask if the ship could be seen over. Croydon officials, responding by telephone, could not see the ship. Information for the pilot, sent to him by radio, but the weather stayed so

bad that the pilot remained over the town until dawn. Meanwhile there were other calls from the Blackstone officials asking that the ship be removed so that the town could get some sleep, but the pilot stayed put where the lights were bright and cherry.

Now if only London were on top and coming from the New York they would have sent up their aerial police to demand that the lights move on.

More fearful and wonderful sensational news from California: Mr. J. T. A. reports that there was so much flying over one airport one day that the air became all worn out and lumpy and the field had to be moved a short distance to a new water course so it seems to give it a closer to move.

Here's an order which would be a real relief to any aviation engine designer: "Get around with big triumphs in the fields of general aviation and aviation flying. Get Charles A. Lindbergh plans to take up the study of power plants. It has been learned here that the flying school has ordered a glider engine weighing 20,000 pounds and developing 20 horsepower." Dated in the Dallas Daily News Herald by R.J.D. of Dallas, Texas.

We have long been campaigning for work in agricultural aviation and now stories that when we do run across perfectly fresh news all work is seems, starting even to us. The following item from the Washington Post, thanks to Mrs. E.C., gives the real reason for a number of crashes: "The first one-up was that of Lt. L.H. G. who was grounded in the World Air Service when the wind changed and flew while he was coming in for a landing."

Sometimes we fear that the old saying that "The boys will fly anything if you pay them enough money" is very nearly true. Another news item from the Aviation by C. F. Moll states: "A former member of the No. 345 'spit' squadron crashed with a specially designed aircraft pilot."

AVIATION  
July 3, 1938

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April 21, 1935

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General Manager,  
Western Air Express

June 10, 1935



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AVIATION  
July 5, 1935

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July 5, 1935

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## ANOTHER AIRPORT GOES GILMORE



Navigation it can. Los Angeles. Continued landing and take off. ways. Gilmore's surface of the new airport of full covered road.

After an exhaustive test of various surfacing materials and surfacing methods, the Metropolitan Airport selected Gilmore. A comparison of construction costs show that Gilmore surfacing costs less. A survey of surfaced flights in actual use show those surfaced by Gilmore to be more durable and safer. Before deciding on surfacing for your airport, submit your problems to Gilmore engineers, address Gilmore Oil Co., Ltd., 9403 E. 98th St., Los Angeles.

**GILMORE**  
*SPECIAL ASPHALT*  
**AIRPORT OILS**



"The Lion" at the Metropolitan Airport near Los Angeles.



There are more Aerial Struts on this model than any other make.

## AEROL STRUTS IN HOLLAND.

A SHORT time ago, the following message was received from H. Pander & Zonen of Holland. It is typical of the international recognition accorded Aerial Struts.

"The demonstration on Aerial Struts we gave for the Dutch Government made a big impression and as a result, the Army adopted these struts for use on the Fokker single-seater fighters being built for use in Holland and the Dutch Colonies.

"We are using Aerial Struts as standard equipment on all aircraft of our manufacture and find that they have greatly increased public confidence in our planes and also the confidence of the pilots who fly them.

"The Aerial Tail Wheel Strut

gives complete satisfaction. Taxiing is like riding in a motor car and there is no jumping up of the tail after a bad landing.

"The Dutch Aero Club and Dutch National Flying School use Aerial Struts exclusively and are absolutely sold on their value. They feel it to be a fact that many crashes made by pupils previous to their use of Aerial Struts would have been prevented."

Wherever ships are flown—wherever pilots get together—Aerial Struts are recognized as the finest protection that can be given any plane.

Aerial Struts are manufactured by The Cleveland Pneumatic Tool Company, Cleveland, Ohio. The company also offers a complete line of air-operated hammers, drills and accessories.



This view shows how Aerial Struts are attached to the landing gear of the aircraft. The strut is attached to the landing gear by a pin and nut. The other end of the strut is attached to the fuselage of the aircraft. This arrangement allows the aircraft to absorb shocks from the landing gear.

**AEROL** shock absorbing **STRUT**

## ....TO MAKE GOOD SHIPS STILL BETTER

**SWALLOW  
PLANES  
POWERED  
Exclusively by  
AXELSON**



any, the all-around superior performance demanded by Swallow engines for the plane as a whole?

AXELSON ENGINES met all these tests—and now are used in the Swallow 3-place Training Bi-plane and the Swallow 2-place Sport Bi-plane, exclusively.

A coordination of engineering excellence that will blaze a new trail in aviation's progress!

No snap judgment in this decision to power Swallow planes with AXELSON ENGINES exclusively!

On the contrary, it was the inevitable result of merciless tests extending over many months to determine just how fit these engines were.

Would AXELSON ENGINES measure up to the high standards set by Swallows? Would they provide the dependability, the speed, the econ-



Axelson Aircraft Engine Co.  
Factory and General Office,  
Corner Franklin St. and Bay St.  
San Antonio, California  
(P. O. Box 107)

*Swallow Axelson-powered*



Latest model Swallow 2-place Sport Bi-plane with AXELSON 100 h.p. engine and new landing gear.





"The small, resilient plane will undoubtedly make use of the numerous times when they will absorb absorbed shocks."

"The use of Airwheel without shock absorbers from some and more than passengers."

"Our landing gear... now built with Airwheel, should make the landing almost as smooth."

"The Airwheel type of tire... may result in doubling the accuracy of target work of the most shock-absorbing device."

"The Airwheel will have great effect on landing gear."

"Airwheel modified shock absorbers will be considered in future landings and that is a great step in the direction."

*Airplane designers and engineers recognize*

## AIRWHEELS

*as a definite part of future design*

The quotations shown here are from one magazine, AVIATION. They came from a section in which officials of airplane companies expressed their opinions of future trends.

Have you investigated these great, soft, rolling rubber pillows for your planes?

Have you seen, by landing dense contraptions, how they make it almost impossible to "nose over" a plane by coming down on soft

ground—how they roll lightly over the top of plowed fields, marsh land and sand—how they prevent wing dragging, even in an intentional ground loop—how they take off and land so gently that you can hardly tell when they leave or come back to the ground?

Duly Goodyear can give you Airwheel safety. Goodyear originated this type of tire—and an important part of Airwheel performance is the special Goodyear built, with

patented internal, self-centering lugs.

Before you undertake to redesign your ships for any type of low pressure tire equipment—find out what Airwheels can do. Nothing else can give you the same total safety. For information or engineering assistance in equipping your future ships, write Aero-nautics Department, Goodyear, Akron, Ohio, or Los Angeles, California.

# GOOD YEAR

EVERYTHING IN RUBBER FOR THE AIRPLANE

## KEEPING PACE WITH THE NAVY

**T**HE annual Curtiss Marine Trophy Race, Navy speed classic, was won this year by Captain Arthur H. Page, U.S. M.C. Flying a Curtiss F6C-3 Hawk (1926), powered with a Curtiss D-12 engine, he established a new speed record for the event of 164.1 M.P.H. This is the fourth successive year that the race, which is open only to standard Navy Service types, has been won by a Curtiss single-seat fighter (three of the four with D-12 engines).

Now, in the two-seater class, Curtiss presents the new F6C-4 "Heldiver." Fast, maneuverable, and rugged, it combines the saw functions of a diving bomber with those of a two-seater carrier fighter, keeping pace with the rapid development of Navy fighting tactics. It is being built in quantities for the Navy and the Marine Corps.



(Left of wing here down)



**CURTISS AEROPLANE & MOTOR CO., Inc.**

Offices: Garden City, N. Y.

Factories: Garden City and Buffalo, N. Y.

A DIVISION OF CURTISS-WRIGHT CORPORATION

# 6 NEW COLORS IN BERRYLOID AIRCRAFT DOPE



**L**OW cost, long life and rich beauty feature the six new Berryloid Dope

Colors just announced. Consolidated and Austin Blue, Balala Orange, Robin Yellow, Olive Drab No. 22 and U. S. Army Yellow No. 4 are now added to an already wide range of popular standard colors. Approved by the U. S. Air Corps and the Bureau of Aeronautics, first choice of most aircraft manufacturers—Berryloid has won recognition everywhere as the best pigmented dope on the market. It is

light, can be brushed or sprayed on fabric or metal, won't crack or ring out

on either type of surface under severe pressure and costs approximately one-half as much as other types of finish. Berryloid Pigmented Dope offers almost resistance to weathering, can be refinished successfully and is non-toxic—won't harm workmen. Complete stocks are carried at all important aircraft centers. Get the facts about this remarkable dope. Write for combination color card and new finishing specifications.

**BERRY BROTHERS**  
Varnishes Enamels Lacquers  
Detroit, Michigan      Duluth, Minn.

The one unit  
the entire  
industry  
OK's  
as standard  
equipment

**KELSEY  
HAYES**

AIRPLANE WHEELS







**THERE IS A LESSON FOR  
THE FUTURE IN THIS  
AVIATION CENTER**

Here, concentrated in one spot, every branch of aeronautics will be provided for in the new airport and plant of the Glenn L. Martin Company, near Baltimore.

Laboratories for the engineer . . . shops for the artisan . . . a school for the student of airplane design . . . another school for the student of flying . . . a residence colony with hydroplane landing for the amateur flier . . . a hotel, restaurant and camp for visitors . . . every side of flying. The world may see many of these in the future.

The H. H. Robertson Company has been privileged to cooperate in the development of this pioneering project. 450 Robertson Ventilators provide stamp-proof ventilating outlets and admit in perfect circulation of air. Guest stretches of Robertson Sash Construction in the roof provide strong but diffused overhead light.

The Robertson Company is cooperating in the building operations in most of the fields where great projects are afoot. If you have any building problems, any problems of ventilation, any problems of daylighting, write to the Robertson engineers for their suggestions.

H. H. ROBERTSON COMPANY — PITTSBURGH, PA.

**ROBERTSON**  
*shares its*  
**HANGAR BUILDING**  
*experience*



Equipped with  
**BENDIX**  
WHEELS AND BRAKES



## The NEW SPARTAN C3-225

This new, heavier, faster, more powerful Spartan has exceptionally rugged undercarriage and 30 x 5 Bendix Wheels and Brakes—big factors of safety in landing and ground maneuvers.

Consult our Engineering Department without obligation.

**BENDIX BRAKE COMPANY**

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

(Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation)

# BENDIX BRAKES

**FOR SAFETY**

Fully guaranteed by patents and registrations in U. S. and abroad

# FAMOUS FLYING FACES

... these and many others take off July 21 to compete in the celebrated American Cirrus \$25,000 ALL-AMERICA FLYING DERBY



Contest A star down the runway... the graceful sweep of a gull as it takes the air... rises... thunders on... all it's but a speck in the distance, it's 6 a.m. in Detroit, July 21... Lee Gelbach in the Commodore Little Rock is off for Buffalo. Another star... another sweep... another speck... another... and another. The All-America Flying Derby is under way... crack pilots seek fame and fortune in the skies...



on they go... Buffalo... New York... Atlanta... Little Rock... Houston (The entire Mexico leg has been eliminated since free announcements), Midland... Douglas... Los Angeles...

Oakland... Ogden... Omaha... Chicago.

One plane will come to rest again at Detroit before the others... One man will win undying fame... All will share the laurels of true achievement... many may profit from the ample prizes... all will give to the future of flying the greatest impetus of contemporary times.

The original \$25,000 offered by American Cirrus Engines, Inc. has already grown to \$35,800 with the addition of special and lap prizes. Detroit, Atlanta, Houston, Douglas and Los



IT IS HIS GOLDEN



CHAS. W. JOHNSON

Angela to date have offered cash prizes to winners of respective laps, and other cities are yet to be heard from.



VINCE L. JOHNSON



JOHN L. JOHNSON

Follow the All-America Flying Derby. Support VANCE L. JOHNSON it with your interest, for it is a ticking test of airmanship and plane and motor construction... a magnificent contribution to the development of the business of flying, whose primary purpose is to promote aviation by increasing public interest in flying as a means of transportation and by demonstrating the power, reliability and safety of moderately priced aircraft.

## PRIZES

to first and

\$33,800

including lap prizes offered by several cities.



American Cirrus 16-Div. Engine has passed the Bureau of Standards test for aircraft type certificate with a rating of 120 h. p. at 2700 r. p. m. This engine equipped with a DePulse Ignition System delivers over 110 h. p.



American Cirrus Engines, Inc., Marysville, Mich.

## The RUSSELL "LOBE" is the ONLY PARACHUTE that



- 1 Opens quickly & positively without depending on springs, rubber bands, pin chains or other mechanical devices that may deteriorate or get out of order.
- 2 Functions quickly without excessive opening shock loads.
- 3 Lets you descend comfortably, at a slow rate of descent.
- 4 Does not require any moving during descent.
- 5 Enables you to land gently—and safely—in your feet.

These outstanding features are the direct result of years' research covering the "Lobe" type of parachute and pack—developed and perfected exclusively by the Russell Parachute Company. For many years it's only one "Lobe" type parachute. The very detail of the design and construction of Russell Parachutes is unusual and it's thoroughly used to understand by the fact that the Russell "Lobe" Parachute has been put to use in so many groups and has been used safely in the world. Actually, the entire aerial life now made in our nation's commercial aviation, is a great service with complete insurance, and safety and enjoyment from the world over.

There are more than 85 members of THE RUSSELL CATERPILLER CLUB who are the best in the world, any other type of Russell "Lobe" Parachute.



Send for Descriptive folder

## THERE'S A CONVENIENT RUSSELL PARACHUTE PACK for every type of plane

In recent months Russell engineers have perfected a number of innovations for the convenience, comfort and safety of types. Here's among them: (A) The "quick-attachable" parachute pack and safety net in its canvas pouch. With this equipment the passenger merely dons a harness, and in a few minutes the parachute pack is quickly attached to the harness. (B) The new Russell net pack with detachable head pack and also an interesting development. With this equipment you may detach the parachute in the cockpit, landing and collecting the parachute harness while seated, and as you do so the safety net. Other Russell packs are (C) the back pack, (D) the lap pack and (E) the training net, consisting of two parachutes.

All Russell Parachutes are available in either 16 lb. jumpsuits or in canvas material. Prices range from \$150 up. Specify descriptive folder and location of nearest Service Station.

## RUSSELL PARACHUTE COMPANY

1938 Kansas Boulevard

San Diego, California

Entire Sales Office, 121 E. 4th Street, New York

## Service Station Managers Wanted

Russell Parachute Service Stations are being established throughout the United States. Experienced parachute service men are needed. Write for attractive proposition.







## FINEST LAMINATED GLASS MADE . . . . . and proof against shocks of forced landings . . . . .

**L**ANDINGS on rough fields lose much of their danger when your plane is equipped with non-shatter glass made by the Duplate Corporation's new Creighton process. There are three types of this glass to choose from, providing a range of thicknesses, weights, and prices to meet every aviation requirement. Also, special bent laminated glass for cock-pit windshields.

Let us know your requirements. We'll send you full information about the line—as well as samples—promptly.

DUPATE CORPORATION, GRANT BLDG., PITTSBURGH  
Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., Distributors  
Representative Branches in all Leading Cities



# Duplate

NON-SHATTER GLASS FOR AVIATION

**DUPATE**  
Plain glass, laminated  
quartz made. Quartz  
laminated in 1/4 inch.  
Weight 10 ounces to  
the square foot.

**ARGOLITE**  
The strongest lami-  
nated glass made. It  
is 1/4 inch thick.  
Weight 15 to 16 ounces  
to the square foot.

**DUP-LITE**  
Plastic quality glass,  
laminated in  
thickness of 1/4 inch.  
Weight 10 ounces to  
the square foot.

## PONTIAC—THE FIRST A1A AIRPORT

A COMPLETE CROUSE-HINDS INSTALLATION



Pontiac, the first airport in the country to receive the official Department of Commerce A1A rating, is completely lighted with Crouse-Hinds airport lighting equipment.

The lighting equipment at Pontiac includes the landing field lights, the revolving beacon, the boundary, obstacle, and approach lights, the hangar exterior floodlights, the wind sock lighting fixture, the ceiling projector, the ceiling height indicator, and the floodlights for illuminating the concrete apron in front of the hangar.



## CROUSE-HINDS



SYRACUSE, N. Y., U. S. A.

NEW YORK    PHILADELPHIA    MILWAUKEE    CHICAGO    ST. LOUIS    BOSTON    PITTSBURGH    WASHINGTON    LOS ANGELES    SAN FRANCISCO    ALBANY

# The ROBIN

An all-purpose plane at a moderate price..



For everyday all-weather flying, the Robin continues as America's most popular plane. There is hardly an airport worthy of the name where Robins are not a familiar sight and always in demand. Both for hard service, they answer the need of the commercial or private flyer with the same reliability that enabled the "St. Louis Robin" to win the world's endurance record by staying aloft 420 hours—a record which still remains unbroken after 12 months.

Pilots like the Robin's ease of control. They rate, with few exceptions, its low landing speed and economical fuel consumption. They appreciate its exceptional visibility, its efficiency among instruments, and the instantaneous panel complete with every device to make flying easier and safer.

Passengers delight in the comfortable cabin, with its airplane-type doors and windows, its deep cushioned seats, upholstered walls and carpeted floor.

## Robin Prices Are Low

Robin values are extending for planes as easily equipped. Now these exceptionally low prices:

Robin SEVAGE CANN MONOPLANE with 90 h.p. Curtiss OX5 engine, speed up to 180 m.p.h., cruising range 458 miles . . . . . \$2,995

Robin 3-PLACE CANN MONOPLANE with 165 h.p. Wright Wharfedale engine, speed up to 118 m.p.h., cruising range 436 miles . . . . . \$3,995

Robin 4-PLACE CANN MONOPLANE with 165 h.p. Curtiss Challenger engine, speed up to 118 m.p.h., cruising range 425 miles . . . . . \$7,995

(This model equipped with dual controls)

No need to get off for another year the pleasures and profits that may be gained now by the ownership of a Robin. Without cost or obligation, business concerns, commercial operators and individuals will be supplied with full details regarding the Robin, and a demonstration arranged. Address Dept. E-75, Sales Division, Curtiss-Wright Corporation, 37 West 57th St., New York.



## CURTISS-WRIGHT CORPORATION



# EX-CELL-O ANNOUNCES

The Acquisition of the Following Companies  
Whose Products Now Form a Part  
of the Ex-Cell-O Group:

## H. R. KRUEGER & CO.

Multiple Drilling Equipment

## WAYNE TOOL CO.

Dies, Jigs, Fixtures

## WOLVERINE SCREW CO.

Special Automatic Screw Machine Products

## CONTINENTAL TOOL WORKS

Counterbores, Ground Taps, Milling Cutters



Krueger Multiple Drilling Equipment is designed and built to meet specific drilling, reaming, and tapping requirements.



The Wayne Die and Tap produces dies, taps, screws, and special equipment. All products are made to specification.



The Wolverine Die and Tap is designed exclusively for the production of special automatic screw machine products.



The Continental Die and Tap offers a complete line of counterbores, ground taps, milling cutters, and special tools.

These four companies, each a specialist in its particular field, bring to Ex-Cell-O not only a group of distinguished products, but years of experience and a reputation for quality, dependability, and value which is completely in keeping with Ex-Cell-O tradition.

## XLO-XLO

1200 OAKMAN BLVD.

## EX-CELL-O

Aircraft (XLO) & Tool Corporation

## XLO-XLO

DETROIT, MICHIGAN



Donald Woodward Airport, La Brea, N. Y.



## From first time up till pilot's license

### SOCONY AVIATION GASOLINE

The Donald Woodward Flying Service was the first school in the East approved by the Department of Commerce. Its record for students passing the Department of Commerce license tests in 1935 was 100%. It maintains 24 planes in equipment. Socony Aviation Gasoline is used exclusively at this airport.

This is but one of many schools and airports in New York and New England in which Socony Aviation Gasoline has been designated as the official fuel. Merit alone won it this preference, for Socony Aviation Gasoline and Socony Aircraft Oil were built to meet flying's severest tests.

Could there be any better proof that the Socony sign is a guarantee that the petroleum products sold there are entirely dependable?

# SOCONY

AVIATION GASOLINE

AIRCRAFT OIL

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF NEW YORK

### SPORT BUSINESS AIRMAIL



## PITCAIRN

### SPORT MAILWING

Smaller than plane than pilot and 2 passengers. Forward cockpit equipped with Dual Controls. Full complement of instruments. Single baggage spot. Top speed 145 m. p. h., cruising speed 110 m. p. h. Weight 1650 lb. p. engine. Price \$10,000.



UNCOMPARABLE assurance upon quality distinguishes the Pitcairn viewpoint on plane-building just as definitely today as it did in the early days of Pitcairn power work in aviation. Now, as then, the aerial struggle which guides the conception and construction of a Pitcairn ship is quality.

Pitcairn Mailwings select the systems with which Pitcairn ingenuity, engineering skill, flying experience and craftsmanship were focused upon that one aim of achieving quality in the highest degree. And that quality is inherent. No wheels, speed, stability... no one characteristic is allowed to overshadow any other. Nor does Pitcairn tolerate the slightest of a single detail of construction. No Pitcairn ship was ever built to a price.

The first control test came when commercial operators took over the flying of Government mail... and the Pitcairn ideal was proved of practical value. The Mailwing met each of the many most stringent Government requirements for mail

carrying by night and day, regardless of weather. It was the balanced quality of the Pitcairn ships that brought to owner and pilot dependable performance. And that performance, in turn, solved the measurable problems with which they were confronted in this service.

Pitcairn Mailwings today fly on regular different aerial lines in the United States and Canada on a schedule of over 20,000 miles each day. And the ship now has to its credit more than 8,000,000 air miles of safe flying.

Such is the heritage of the Pitcairn Sport Mailwing... fast, sure ship to the veteran Mailwing. It offers you the same absolute precision in every detail... the same steadiness... the same ease of handling... the same line stability which makes for effortless control and true, smooth flying.

Your pleasure in owning and operating a Pitcairn Sport Mailwing will be immeasurably heightened by the keen beauty of its line and its complete comfort. Pitcairn Aircraft, Incorporated, Pitcairn Field, Willow Grove, Pa.

# PITCAIRN

## WITH ALL THE PAST TO CHOOSE FROM...



**I**n our youngest industries—radio and aviation—arcwelding is a standard production tool. With two centuries of manufacturing practice to draw from, each has chosen arcwelding as the modern method of high-speed production at low cost.

Oxwelding is ideally suited to refine manufacturing operations. It is readily adaptable to rapid increases in production and frequent or unforeseen changes in design.

It is applicable to the widest range of materials—steel and the ferrous alloys—aluminum, brass, bronze, and practically all other non-ferrous metals and alloys.

THE LINDE AIR PRODUCTS COMPANY . . . THE PREST-O-LITE  
COMPANY, INC. . . OXWELD ACETYLENE COMPANY . . .  
UNION CARBIDE SALES COMPANY,

Units of

**UNION CARBIDE AND CARBON CORPORATION**

General Office . . . New York **UNION CARBIDE** Sales Offices in the Principal Cities  
42 Union Plaza . . . All Prest-O-Lite Plants . . . City Gasoline Warehouse Streets . . . 155 Astor Lane  
Warehouse Streets . . . All Acetylene Warehouse Streets . . . 345 Union Carbide Warehouse Streets



# Announcing



**a significant  
step forward  
in the task of  
providing vital  
information for  
the men who are  
and will be the  
backbone of the  
aviation industry**

Beginning with the August Issue

# AVIATION

INAUGURATES

## A MORE IMPROVED SERVICE

**T**O expand and intensify AVIATION's service and to keep a step ahead of the growing needs of the industry, AVIATION will change and add to its publishing service after the weekly issue of July 5th.

Commencing with the August issue, AVIATION will be issued as a monthly publication. It will be larger, more colorful, more thorough.

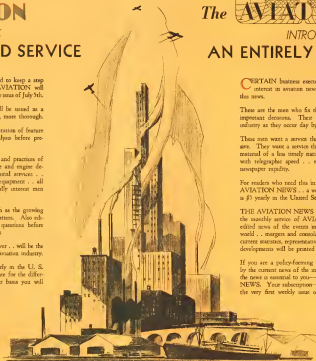
Monthly publication will permit a more accurate interpretation of feature article material that calls for detailed study and analysis before presentation.

AVIATION will continue to be devoted to methods and practices of plane and engine production . . . developments in plane and engine design . . . operation of airports, transport lines and aerial services . . . sales and merchandising problems . . . maintenance of equipment . . . all the thousand and one "how's" and "why's" that vitally interest men in aviation.

More space will be devoted to specialized features such as the growing importance of airports, transport lines and financial matters. Also editorials expressing definite opinions on the important questions before the industry and a digest of the month's aviation news.

After 14 years of service, AVIATION . . . more than ever . . . will be the beacon light for those who want the real facts on the aviation industry.

Subscription price of the new monthly will be \$3 yearly in the U. S. All domestic subscriptions will be extended to compensate for the difference in the subscription price. On a dollar-for-dollar basis you will receive full value.



ISSUED MONTHLY... Subscription Price - \$3 Yearly in U. S. CANADA MEXICO  
\$6 in Central and South America; \$8 elsewhere

Beginning with the July 12th Issue

# The AVIATION News

INTRODUCES

## AN ENTIRELY NEW SERVICE

**C**ERTAIN business executives—and other readers with a primary interest in aviation news—must have a quick, reliable source of this news.

These are the men who fix the policies of their organizations or make important decisions. Their judgment is influenced by events in the industry as they occur day by day and week by week.

These men want a service that is swift . . . authoritative . . . comprehensive. They want a service that isolates the news from all conflict with material of a less timely nature . . . a service that will gather the news with telegraphic speed . . . edit it carefully . . . and present it with newspaper rapidity.

For readers who read this information, McGraw-Hill presents THE AVIATION NEWS . . . a weekly reporting service. Subscription price is \$3 yearly in the United States.

THE AVIATION NEWS will be a real news service, supplementing the monthly service of AVIATION. It will contain complete, well-edited news of the events in the industry as they occur all over the world . . . mergers and consolidations, significant flights, financial news, current statistics, representatives appointed, foreign notes, etc. Technical developments will be printed when they are new.

If you are a policy-forming executive . . . if your activities are shaped by the current news of the industry . . . if accuracy and completeness in the news is essential to you—then you should read THE AVIATION NEWS. Your subscription—mailed today—will assure your receiving the very first weekly issue of this new service.

ISSUED WEEKLY... Subscription Price - \$3 Yearly in U. S. CANADA MEXICO  
\$6 in Central and South America; \$8 elsewhere



772 hours per month  
via TRAVEL AIR transport



A Travel Air biplane with  
monoplane characteristics in  
passenger line, available through  
Travel Air.

Jerry Marshall, Operations  
Manager of Southern Air  
Transport, Inc.

THE Lone Star State is now splendidly served by the air line system of Southern Air Transport. The S. A. T. fleet of twelve 6-place Travel Air cabin monoplanes flying nearly a million miles a year on schedule have reduced by two-thirds the former traveling time between principal Texas cities.

Jerry Marshall, Operations Manager of S. A. T., credits Travel Air performance with three facts: "We are at this time using twelve Travel Air J-6's, 6-place cabin monoplanes on our regular passenger lines in Texas. These ships have been flying approximately 772 hours, or 7,405 miles, per month with very satisfactory results. They are highly favored by the pilots, the maintenance personnel, and thou-

sands of passengers who travel readily in safety and comfort over our lines."

Travel Air cabin monoplanes have repeatedly proven their superior qualifications in passenger, express and charter service. Their consistent performance and low operating cost make profits possible at reasonable rates. Their reliable Wright Whirlwind power plants, inherent stability, ease of handling, all-weather efficiency and low maintenance cost have made them the choice of leading transportation companies throughout America.

Write for specifications, performance data and operating costs which will be supplied without obligation. Address your letter to Dept. T-673, Sales Division, 27 W. 57th St., New York.



CURTISS-WRIGHT  
CORPORATION



## FAMOUS FLIGHTS WITH THOMPSON VALVES in the "Spirit of St. Louis"



(This advertisement is one  
of a series recalling historic  
airplane flights in which  
Thompson Valves were used.)

IT is only three short years since a lone man left the coast of America and completed the first trans-Atlantic solo flight. The brilliant feat of this skillful, daring pilot has won unprecedented fame the world over.

In the world of aeronautics, the perfect performance of this pilot's plane, its engine and every engine part established an equally brilliant record of utter dependability.

Contributing largely to the success of this famous flight was the undying performance of the Thompson Valves that controlled the operation of the engine in the "Spirit of St. Louis."

And this is only one of the many outstanding achievements of Thompson Valves that have led to their specification in today's finest American airplane motors.

THOMPSON PRODUCTS, INCORPORATED  
General Offices: Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A.  
Factories: CLEVELAND and DETROIT



# Thompson Valves

## THE GOOD MECHANIC'S CHOICE

AIR  
MINDED

Just like today's most modern aircraft! This tiny little U. S.  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch drill combines strength with light weight (only 5½ pounds)—accomplished by one-piece Bohalite frame and commutator housing. Easy servicing is made possible by the removable handle side and commutator housing. Powerful universal motor (for A. C. or D. C.) provides full rated power UNDER LOAD, 1,600 r.p.m. Chrome nickel steel gears, hardened and running in grease, insure long life. The trigger switch is proof against shorts. Also like the best aircraft, this U. S. drill is well balanced, easily handled and quiet. This is true of the whole U. S. line—oldest and broadest in the world. Whatever you need, specify U. S.

• ASK YOUR JOBBER •



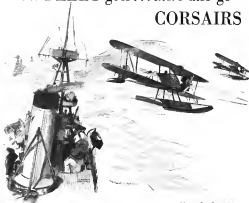
## THE UNITED STATES ELECTRICAL TOOL COMPANY

2456 West Sixth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, U. S. A.

Representative—WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC INTERNATIONAL CO., 119 Broadway, New York City

Canadian Division—MAPLE LEAF ELECTRIC TOOLS, Ltd.—Toronto

Where  
the FLEET goes... there also go  
CORSAIRS



IT MAY be with a battleship. It may be on a search carrier. But whenever the United States Fleet goes there are sure to be Corsairs. The Corsair alone (No. A-701) has already seen service with the U. S. S. *Coffinmaker*, flagship of the Pacific Fleet, the U. S. S. *Idaho* and last day at San Diego.

A Corsair, like a soldier, never leaves to what ship it will go or what duty will be asked of it. It

must be prepared to stand up under the strain of catapult landings from a battleship. To withstand the severe pounding of rough sea landings. To make quick take-offs from search carrier decks. To give absolutely dependable service in emergencies of every kind.

That is why Corsairs have been built to perform under conditions more trying than the ordinary plane as our subjected troops perform

with speed and certainty—and to keep on performing.

Corsairs today are carrying out some of the most difficult assignments which can be given to aircraft in naval service. Their successful record has made them the standard of observation planes in the U. S. naval air force. CHANCE VOUGHT CORPORATION, East Hartford, Connecticut Division of United Aircraft & Transport Corporation.

## CHANCE VOUGHT CORPORATION





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"Its" and "bats" don't go with Western Air Express. Ships must perform in perfect harmony with a sharply-set flying tempo . . . You'll find Stearmans in their service. (Several in continuous use for over two years!) For everyday schedules or just that optional hop of yours which has to pack a world of exhilarating yet restful pleasure into every minute—for every flying reason, what but Stearman! There's no question about it. 225 H. P. Business Speedster, 300 H. P. and 400 H. P.

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STEARMAN AIRCRAFT COMPANY, WICHITA, KANSAS

Division of United Aircraft and Transport Corporation

Junior Speedmail Model 425, Minor Junior  
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# SMOOTHNESS

Smoothness is an almost indefinable element in an engine. It is the "feel" that satisfies the pilot's sixth sense. It is the "plus factor" that distinguishes Continental Aircraft Engines. Countless pilots say "The smoothest engine I've ever flown." There can be no finer tribute to intelligent design, quality materials, expert workmanship—and precision. The four cardinal points of practical aircraft power are smoothness, dependability, economy, and convenience. All result from the same basic fundamental of construction—precision. Continental Aircraft Engines are almost unbelievably "smooth" because they are Precision Built. Continental is producing Practical Aircraft Power.

\* Approved Type Certificate No. 33, U. S. Department of Commerce  
CONTINENTAL AIRCRAFT ENGINE CO.  
General Office and Factory: Detroit, Michigan

## Continental Engines



Drawing upon the facilities and experience of the greatest engine builder in the world, Continental is uniquely enabled to counsel with the trade in the design and production of engines to fit individual requirements.

July 5, 1938

\* as on the Graybar Program at 10 P.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, every Tuesday . . . , Columbia Broadcasting System.



\*—Small white stars indicate Graybar-lighted airports all parts of the country.



**It's Toledo...** It's easy to find by night . . . It's easy to land upon . . . It's a well-lighted airport . . . It's a Graybar-lighted airport. ¶ Graybar has supplied equipment to light many other famous airports in every part of the nation. Graybar airport lighting specialists have helped to solve many a difficult technical problem in this field. These experts can help you solve your problems. Why not avail yourself of their services? Here's a coupon to point the way.



Toledo Airport



Some typical examples of Graybar Airport Lighting



**GraybaR**  
AIRPORT LIGHTING  
OFFICES IN 11 PRINCIPAL CITIES

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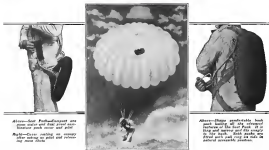
Graybar Electric Co., Graybar Bldg., New York. Cordless: Please send me more information on Airport Lighting.

44-74

NAME

ADDRESS

July 5, 1938



Always—Just Pull—Parachute pack opens and pilot falls safely.

Right—Cover catches air, canopy inflates and pilot is released.

Always—These pack handles all the critical features of the last pack. It is light and simple and the canopy is the best. It is made of the best material and can be used in all conditions.

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**A SURE ACTING, FOOL PROOF PATENTED  
PACK OF PROVED QUICKER OPENING**

This famous combination one piece cover pack is patented, controlled and manufactured only by the Switlik Co. at Trenton, N. J.

Because of its tremendous popularity and proved superiority others are trying to imitate this pack. So we wish to repeat: The original Safety Chute as pictured above is manufactured only by us. Write or wire today for illustrated booklet and special offer.

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CIALS AND MANY  
FAMOUS FLYERS**

**SWITLIK PARACHUTE & EQUIPMENT Co.**

BROAD AND DYE STS., TRENTON, N. J.





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**KEPT SHARP ON BLACK & DECKER GRINDERS**—increasing efficiency and effecting real economy in these days when maintenance costs must be kept at the lowest level.

Spot these grinders through your shop. Save time and insure quality as well as speed of production.



Black & Decker Electric Tool Grinders are available in sizes from 6" to 14" diameter wheels, the three shown above (6", 7", 10") having proven the most popular.

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Buy from your Distributor

**The BLACK & DECKER MFG. CO.**

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## Every hour on the hour

*fast tri-motored  
service between*

**NEW YORK**

**PHILADELPHIA**

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*via*

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In August, the New York, Philadelphia and Washington Airway Corporation inaugurates passenger and express service over one of the most populous and most traveled sections of the country. Central Airport was selected by the NYPWAC for the Philadelphia-Granden stop because of its excellent service and its closeness to the business centers of both cities.

Every hour on the hour, from 1 A. M. to 5 P. M., this service will leave the Pennsylvania Station in New York and the Union Station (and hotels) in Washington. From approximately railroad fares plus Pullman, Swift, comfortable 18-place, tri-motored Stinson planes will be used. Twenty times each day they will wing into Central Airport for Philadelphia-Granden passengers.

Business keeps looking up at Central Airport. It is the center of aviation activities in this section—equipped with every convenience for transport operators, private flyers and the public. Highly desirable land is still available for manufacturing and assembly purposes, for storage, display and office space. . . . For particulars write Central Airport, Inc., Granden, New Jersey.



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AIRPORT & AIRWAY  
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COLUMBUS, OHIO    BIRMINGHAM, TENN.    LOS ANGELES, CALIF.  
U.S.A.



Model P-100 Spartan biplane, shown here as well as used at several Airports.

## For attaching elevator ribs to the spar—

### SPARTAN AIRCRAFT

**uses Self-tapping screws for ease,  
speed and economy in assembly**

Spartan, like a score of other prominent aircraft manufacturers, finds Self-tapping Screws a real aid in saving assembly time and labor without sacrificing security. One of the applications for which they use these unique Screws is illustrated here. Close inspection shows the Hardened Metallic Drive Screws used to attach the elevator ribs to the large duralumin tubular spar. Not only do these Screws hold better than machine screws under vibration, but they offer the greatest possible fastening ease and speed. It is only necessary that they be driven into holes drilled in the spar. They tap their own thread and hold the rib attachment sitting securely.

Spartan also uses another type of Self-tapping Screw, the Hardened Self-tapping Sheet Metal Screw, in the fabrication of oil and gas tanks. Worthwhile savings are also effected on this application.

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**PARKER-KALON**  
HARDENED  
**Self-tapping Screws**

PUT IN U.S. AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES



#### HARDENED METALLIC DRIVE SCREWS

To make permanent fastenings in steel, brass and aluminum castings, and forgings, etc. Hardened Metallic Drive Screws are a drilled or formed hole. The Screw breaks a thread in the material, and makes a fastening, that stays secure even under constant vibration and severe stress.



#### HARDENED SELF-TAPPING SHEET METAL SCREWS

For making sheet metal assemblies. Turn the Hardened Self-tapping Sheet Metal Screw into a pre-drilled hole. As the Screw is driven, it forms its own thread in the metal like a tap, drawing the threads securely together.



Airplane Air-Mast Case  
made by Consolidated  
Instrument Company of  
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## "CONSOLIDATED" USES BAKELITE MOLDED MAKING IMPROVED CASES FOR 50 PER CENT LESS

When the air speed indicator was housed in metal, electrolytic trouble developed frequently from contact between the mechanism and its metal case. To overcome this fault through providing an indicator housing of permanently dependable insulating material, the Consolidated Instrument case is now made of Bakelite Molded.

The high dielectric strength of Bakelite Molded is supplemented by its strong resistance to corrosion. Bakelite Molded is non-hygroscopic and is unaffected by extremes of atmospheric temperature. Unlike metal, Bakelite Molded will not rust, rot or ferment.

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BAKELITE CORPORATION OF CANADA, LIMITED, 93 Balfour Street, Toronto, Ontario

# BAKELITE



THE MATERIAL OF A THOUSAND USES



When ordinary oil has taken the worst, Quaker State is still here, hearty and ready for more punting—ready and able to give that sweeter, smoother lubrication a motor needs.

And why can Quaker State "take it" longer than ordinary oils and then come back for more? Because there's an extra quart in every gallon of it.

Quaker State is not refined like ordinary oil. It is super-refined. This Quaker State super-refining process carries it a step further and removes the

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In place of this quart of waste you get a quart of the finest lubricant—four full quarts of lubricant to every gallon of Quaker State. So you really get an extra quart.

And there's another reason why Quaker State Aero Oil is a better oil for any plane. It is made from 100% pure Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil—the very finest crude oil the world produces.

Get Quaker State Aero Oil at your airport—and you'll get the finest oil that ever smelted aloft. You'll get an oil that holds its body—an oil that stands up under engine heat like no other oil you've seen. You'll get the smoothest, sweetest lubrication a motor ever had!

# QUAKER STATE

MADE IN U.S.A. 4-107-100

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Get that extra quart in every gallon

Other Fine Pennsylvania  
Products are:

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MEDIUM MOTOR OIL  
QUAKER STATE  
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QUAKER STATE  
HEAVY MOTOR OIL  
QUAKER STATE  
COLD TEST  
QUAKER STATE  
TRACTOR OILS  
QUAKER STATE OIL ENGINEING CO., OIL CITY, PA.



# What do you need?

**T**HE Searchlight Section of this publication serves as a handy and efficient means of getting in contact with others in the metal working industry who have services or material things to offer, that may just be one of your business wants. It is the industry's recognized center for the advertising of all kinds of business wants. Consult it regularly every week—use it for advertising the many miscellaneous needs that confront you from time to time. The cost of advertising is small, the results—usually prompt and profitable!

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FOR  ONE PLANE  
OR A  FLEET,  
STEEL HANGARS MEET THE  
NEEDS OF THE AVIATION  
INDUSTRY...



Quincy Flying Service Hangar—Clinton, Illinois

**A**VIATION is a growing, changing industry. The great planes of today, may be the pygmies of five years hence . . . Present airports may be abandoned or become of secondary importance as air travel increases.

For these reasons, steel hangars are the logical "key" for the aviation industry. Not only are they inexpensive, sturdy, durable, speedily erected, and incombustible; but they can be enlarged to meet growing needs; moved to meet changing conditions, or taken down and sold with very little depreciation.

How universal is the satisfaction which steel hangars are giving may be judged from the fact that there are probably more planes housed in hangars of steel today than in those of any other type.



Small Trade Hangar—see advertisement opposite page 100

For complete information on steel hangars for one plane or a fleet, write Trade Research Division, National Association of Flat Rolled Steel Manufacturers, 811 Terminal Tower Building, Cleveland, Ohio.



Head of Commerce, Chief of Landing, Motor Oil Station, Liberty, Michigan



Steel Hangar, Clinton, Illinois

**Save**     
Time Labor Money  
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with **LUXURIOUS FLYING**



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Mr. C. E. Walgreen, executive of the Walgreen Drug Store

**W**Henever a great business spreads from city to city, and from state to state, its growth brings with it the problems of supervision. And that means travel time. In the management of the Walgreen Drug Store the Company's Sikorsky Amphibian plays a vital and time saving part.

Not so long ago it became necessary for Mr. Walgreen and those of his department heads to visit several branches. Leaving the home office in Chicago they flew to Denver and back in four days, stopping at Des Moines, Omaha, Lincoln, Wichita and Kansas

City. Their Sikorsky provides fast, luxurious transportation.

Tactful and efficient salespeople in the Walgreen Company have also learned to know and enjoy the big Amphibian. When shoppers report an employee as being particularly courteous, the good work is rewarded with a ride in the "Sik."!

The Sikorsky Amphibian is unusually well adapted to the use of large business organizations. The ship is powered with two 420 H.P. "Wasp" engines, which give her a cruising speed of 140 miles an hour. And so large is her

reserve of power that she can fly and maneuver on either engine. Further, in minutes but a few seconds to convert the ship from airplane to landplane. She takes off and alights on land or water with equal facility. Many cities have fine water fronts almost within a stone's throw of their business centers.

There's a booklet which tells more about these advantages of the Sikorsky Amphibian. May we send you a copy? Sikorsky Aviation Corporation, Bridgeport, Connecticut, Division of United Aircraft & Transport Corporation.



From the cockpit of the amphibian the Sikorsky Amphibian looks like this. From the cockpit of your landing plane to the cockpit of your airplane. Photo-graph from Panhandle Aircraft Company.



SIKORSKY AMPHIBION

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\$100,000  
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TRAINING PLANES

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Its complete flying and mechanical training is based on the 16,000,000 miles flown by Boeing planes over the nation's two longest air routes. And backed by the nationwide resources of the United Aircraft & Transport Companies.

Each of the 23 Instructors was chosen for his special qualifications for ground school or flying instruction. The five flying instructors, for example, have an average record of 4,000 hours night and day flying—with the air mail and in army flying instruction, forest patrol and commercial flying. Every Boeing flying student must master each of the various types of planes—first mechanically, then as a pilot. He must learn to fly by instruments, and at night, to take off and land under adverse conditions, to meet all flying emergencies. In short, to be a pilot, not just a flyer. The mechanical courses offer the same superior training.

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Division of United Aircraft & Transport Companies

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Aero A's are winning for themselves the same reputation for better performance and greater dependability in the air, that other Champions have enjoyed for years, the world over, on land and water.

Install Aero A spark plugs in your plane. The improvement they will bring you is unmistakable. They will render you more hours of dependable service.

### Champion Aero A Exclusive Features

1. Reinforced base.
2. Special anodized electrode.
3. Insulator silicemite dome formation.
4. 8.5 volt resistance.
5. Copper seal.
6. Primary silicemite sealant.
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Consistent in this new type spark plug for practically all aircraft engines makes Champion, through close production, to offer this new type superior spark plug at the extremely low price of \$0.25.

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SPARK PLUGS  
TOLEDO, OHIO WINDSOR, ONTARIO

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July 4, 1932

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Brace every plane you build or fly with

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 July 5, 1938

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No. 62 THOR Rotary Drill has a capacity of ¼ in. and speed of 2,000 R.P.M. Weight is 3½ lbs. Complete information is yours for the asking. Write for Bulletin 129.

We also feature a complete line of Rotary Air Drills and Grinders. In size and type of tool for every requirement. A copy of our Bulletin showing these new tools should be in your files. Send for it now.

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Aircraft Building, 1010 and 11th St. N. W.  
Washington, D. C.  
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION, SERVICE, REPAIRS  
—The pioneer in aircraft repair—

## This Service Directory

is designed to give you the  
kind of service that will be  
of real value to your business

Take advantage of it.

# WHERE TO FLY







300 CONTINUOUS HOURS • 7200 TAKE OFFS



• Air Ferries Ltd. plane taking off from Oakland  
San Francisco in background



April 27, 1935

Shaw-Wright Aviation Board, Inc.  
200 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, California.

ATTENTION: Captain E. S. Chubbuck.

Dear Sir:

During the last few months we have serviced 35,000 passengers in our Air Ferry service between San Francisco and Oakland, making approximately 5,500 make landings and take-offs. The aviation material we have used has been a most excellent test for both airplanes and engines.

We have just completed major overhauls on our Pratt & Whitney "Wasp" engines (488 and our Wright "Cyclone" 41222). After over 500 hours of service, our Chief of Operations, Mr. Daniel Murphy, tells us that these engines are in exceptionally fine condition considering the grueling test to which they have been subjected, and he feels that their steady service in his Air Ferry service is the best 12-500 grade performing oil.

Therefore as we have used the new Stanavo Aviation Engine Oil extensively, we felt you would be pleased to keep it in your portfolio and give you the information along to you for what it is worth.

Very truly yours,

Respectfully,

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**STANAVO**   
AVIATION ENGINE OIL  
One Brand—STANAVO—One Quality—The Highest—Throughout the World  
STANAVO SPECIFICATION BOARD, Inc.

Organized and maintained by

Standard Oil Company (Indiana)  
910 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago

Standard Oil Company of California  
233 Bush St., San Francisco

Standard Oil Company of New Jersey  
26 Broadway, New York City

# DIVING BOMBERS



## A NEW ERA IN AERIAL TACTICS!

Down—down—down—for 6,000 feet in a vertical dive, carrying a 3,000-pound bomb in a standard bomb release! Achieving full terminal velocity of more than 4 miles per minute. Then pulling out sharply from the dive with the bomb still in place! Again and again, this feat was performed by the new Martin Diving Bomber XT3N-1—a feat never before accomplished by any plane in any country.

Bell carrying six 1,000-pound bombs, this rugged bomber executed pursuit evolutions such as loops, rolls, immolations and inverted flying with unobscuring ease and grace. It has set new records for handling, plane performance and established new tactics for aerial warfare.

What is responsible for the remarkable manuever and maneuverability of the new Martin Diving Bomber? First, the able aerodynamical design of the plane by the Bureau of Aeronautics of the United States Navy. Secondly, the typical Martin dependability in developing the structural and detail design—made possible by exhaustive research, vast resources and the "knowing-how" that comes from twenty-one years of airplane building experience.

Dependability is the one factor indispensable in building any type of aircraft, whether it is battle planes or planes for pleasure and business. The U. S. Government, which looks the world to aircraft research, gets from Martin construction the ultimate in dependability!



**MARTIN**  
AIRCRAFT

THE GLENN L. MARTIN COMPANY

Builder of Dependable Aircraft Since 1909  
BALTIMORE, MD. • CABLE GLENHAR

# THEY DUG HER OUT OF ICE AND FLEW TO THE POLE!

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NORTHERN lights "have seen queer sights," but last November those that gleam over Antarctica's ice gazed down on an astounding scene . . .

They saw a crew of men crush a white mound with picks. Out of the ice, where it had been packed for months, they saw a great airplane appear. They watched the men bring it back to life . . . testing and adjusting each part . . . checking the three Wright engines with the care of scientists.

They heard the motors' song split thin air. Frozen power throbbed again. Four men climbed in . . . skimmed the ship over ice . . . up . . . and streaked off for the Pole.

For 16 hours the stars heard the engines sing. Over mountains of rock, seas of snow, chasms of ice the ship hurled south to the Pole . . . *over it!* . . . around it, and back to the base—safe from the bottom of the world!

Rear Admiral Byrd, Bernt Balchen, Harold June and Ashley McKinley were the men. The "Floyd Bennett" was the plane. A giant "Cyclone" and two great "Whirlwinds" sang the historic song.

Home again, after the gruelling flight, Wright welcomes the Byrd party. No men, no motors, nor airplane have ever shown more courage—endurance!

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**WRIGHT**  
AERONAUTICAL CORPORATION  
PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

A DIVISION OF CURTIS-WRIGHT

